

BAY AREA REPORTER

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EDITORIAL

Forward Together— No Turning Back



(Photo: J.D. Dusch)

With this issue we begin our 16th year. From a little bar throwaway we have become the nation's largest gay weekly, and the San Francisco gay community has developed into the focus for the hopes and dreams of gay people everywhere.

Who could have foreseen, 16 years ago, the challenges and the changes we have faced? The exhilarating party scene of the '70s has changed to the struggle to preserve our lives in the '80s. Our values have changed with the times, and we have become a more loving, caring, and close-knit community. No matter how great the struggle, we have shown time and again that we can overcome it — if we stick together.

We don't publish front-page editorials often. We have published only a handful in 15 years, recognizing those key turning points in the development of our community. The election Tuesday for Congress is one of those key turning points. The nation is watching us. Once again the hopes and dreams of all gay Americans are focused on our City by the Bay.

In our complacency here in San Francisco we thought all was well. We believed that understanding and respect for each other was a *fait accompli*. We were wrong.

Our fine Congresswoman, Sala Burton, passed away and we have a mad scramble for her seat. There is one candidate who stands out for this position. But — heaven forbid — he is openly gay!

In some of the most blatantly homophobic articles written in the major press in recent years, the gay candidate has been ostracized. Along with the gay supervisor we have three other supervisors running for the seat. These four public servants have all been re-elected to public office and all have issues on which to stand.

Did the big boys back one of these people? Of course not. They chose instead a party-giving socialite whose only claim to fame is that she is a Democratic Party fundraiser. She has no record, no issues, and runs on the vapid slogan "A Voice That Will Be Heard." She lined up more special interest groups than a Congressional lobbyist to support her candidacy, but we have yet to hear positive statements from her. Her voice will not be heard — on our behalf. Her voice is already bought and paid for by others, on their behalf.

It is crucial to gay men and lesbians across this great country of ours to elect an openly gay person to Congress.

It is also crucial that the federal government be made to realize that AIDS is a major crisis. The best way to do that is to elect Harry Britt to Congress.

This would force members of Congress to get to know us, to deal with us, talk with us, and learn that we too know how to give and take in the legislative game.

It is also time to show San Francisco that we too have hopes, goals and dreams. We are not now or ever will be second-class citizens. We got out of the back of the bus a long time ago and no dated party machine is going to put us back there.

Harry Britt as our newest member of Congress will make our voice heard on Capitol Hill. Not just the voices of San Franciscans, but also the voices of gay men and lesbians across America.

Harry will speak for the other disenfranchised groups in this land, and he will be a strong voice for environmentalists.

We proudly endorse Harry Britt, our newest member of Congress, on our sixteenth birthday.

Bob Ross

State Funding Cuts Threaten Drug Services

Gov. Vetoes Funds for AIDS Programs; Could Close Down 18th Street Services

by Charles Linebarger

San Francisco drug counseling agencies will be cut to the bone as the result of a loss of \$400,000 in state substance abuse funds for people at risk of AIDS. The funds were cut off March 31. Gov. George Deukmejian's veto of the continued funding for the program will mean that 18th Street Services will close down, Operation Concern will lose \$20,000 and a full-time staff person, and Larkin Street Youth Center will also have to forgo a full-time staff person. All this unless the state changes its mind or the city steps in to fill the breach.

Jerry De Jong, director of 18th Street Services, told Bay Area Reporter that 75 percent of his agency's funds (\$153,000), come from the lost state funding. "In the worst case scenario that this money is gone for good, we would be out of business," he said.

De Jong added, "We're bursting at the seams with clients and doing all kinds of street-based work and I'm just astounded at the state's short-sightedness in cutting off funding considering that 13 percent of all gay AIDS cases in San Francisco are IV drug users."



At Operation Concern, Carole Migden told B.A.R. that the loss of the state substance abuse funds "will have a devastating effect" on the work that her agency does, primarily for gay men at risk of AIDS.

Migden said that she believed the city would bail out the agencies involved until the end of this fiscal year, or until the end of June 1987.

At the city bureau of alcohol and drug abuse programs, Wayne Clark, director, said that the Bureau is still negotiating with the state to persuade Sacramento to fund the program until the end of the fiscal year.

Said Clark, "The city wants the state to pick up as much of

(Continued on page 2)

Campaign Makes Final Push; Voter Turn-Out Crucial

Britt Gains in Polls; Volunteers Turn Out; 'The Numbers Are There,' Says Campaign Chief

by Allen White

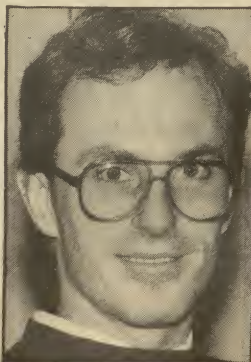
The momentum is building towards election day next Tuesday and the final push is on for the last few days of the campaign to put Harry Britt in Congress. All indicators point to a victory for Britt if the people who are supportive of his candidacy turn out to vote. "The numbers are there, we can win," said campaign manager Dick Pabich.

A new poll commissioned by the San Francisco Examiner and KRON-TV showed Britt cutting Nancy Pelosi's lead significantly. With less than a week to go, Britt was within nine points of Pelosi who leads 23-14 percent. An earlier poll had shown Britt down 29-11 percent. A large number of voters remained undecided.

Over 750 volunteers are expected to be walking precincts, telephoning and working to help elect Britt next Tuesday, April 7. The huge mobilization is one of the largest ever assembled in San Francisco by one candidate for public office.

Last Saturday more than 300 people gathered at the Britt Headquarters to walk precincts and telephone. Several hundred of them were women who had gathered for a celebration of their involvement in the campaign. Standing on a desk in the crowded room, Sally Gearhart and Louise Ogden from the Na-

(Continued on page 2)



'The numbers are there. We can win,' says campaign director Dick Pabich (l.), as Britt closes in on victory.

Today

Gay Oscars: Check out Hollywood's other awards extravaganza. See page 14.

\$1 Billion: That's what Rep. Tony Coelho, third ranking Democrat in the House, says we'll soon see for AIDS. See page 18.

Play Ball: It's summer-time and the bases are loaded as the 10th Gay Softball season gets underway. See page 17.

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State Funding

(Continued from page 1)

the price tag as possible. If the city says it is prepared to take up the slack, that will leave the city with the whole problem. If we can get the state to cover the costs of this program we can do other things."

The feared epidemic of AIDS among IV drug users and their families has led to massive expansion of other programs working with substance abusers at risk of AIDS. Clark said the bureau's goal is \$3.5 million this year to work with this high risk group, as compared with the \$400,000 state program which is now winding down.

Clark explained the planned eight-fold increase in funding of

programs for IV drug users, saying "The epidemic grows and grows. It's a cancer as far as financing. We've got as multi a level strategy as we can put together to deal with it."

As for the bureau's goal of \$3.5 million for programs for substance abusers at risk, Clark said, "I think we'll get more than that."

Of the \$3.5 million, \$510,000 will go to educate minorities about AIDS, \$370,000 to outreach to uninfected heterosexuals, \$350,000 to shorten waiting periods for clients seeking help at funded agencies, \$230,000 for out-patient counseling, \$500,000 for residential treatment, \$530,000 for methadone treat-

ment for heroin users, \$300,000 for residential care, \$35,000 for professional training programs, and \$830,000 for research and epidemiology.

While Clark intimated that the city will provide the funds to maintain the services now provided at the gay agencies, he added that an open bidding process will begin in a week among city agencies for contracts to provide services under the bureau's expected \$3.5 million budget. The gay agencies will be competing in a general funding at that point for their share of the increased funds available for substance abusers at risk of AIDS. ●

Final Push

(Continued from page 1)

tional Women's Political Caucus — one lesbian, one straight — said, "Together, we're for Britt for Congress," as the crowd cheered.

At the corner of 18th and Castro Streets, the mood was upbeat over the weekend as dozens of people converged to pass out literature and get signatures for absentee ballots.

It was noted at the Registrar of Voters office that the Britt campaign had turned in thousands of absentee ballots, many more than any other candidate. Rich Hayes, field manager for Britt, said, "Nancy Pelosi had begun an absentee campaign and they simply gave up. We beat 'em."

There were many victories for the Britt campaign last week. The Sierra Club, which joined the other major environmental groups in endorsing Britt, was turning the endorsement into action. Phone banks throughout the city were being worked by members of their organization. The League of Conservation Voters was also operating phone banks.

Because of a lack of people who have volunteered, the Pelosi campaign has been forced to use only phone banks. To counter the Pelosi phone effort, the Britt campaign has now over 100 phones in operation at several locations throughout the city.

The primary focus of the effort to elect Harry Britt is now shifting to election day. "There are 800 slots which we need to fill," said David Weldy who is the volunteer coordinator for the campaign. "We now have almost 300 people signed up," he said, "and we need volunteers to fill the remaining slots."

These volunteers will be going out to all the precincts and con-

tacting voters who are targeted as Britt supporters. The basic strategy is to be successful in getting every one of these people to vote. Political observers have noted that many of the voters are undecided and that support for Britt's opponent, Nancy Pelosi, has been very soft. On the other hand, Britt supporters have tended to be solid in their support.

Harry Britt has been making campaign appearances throughout the city. One of the most important events was held last week. Dr. Paul Volberding, the respected leader in the AIDS fight, hosted a fundraiser at his home for doctors and other health workers.

Saturday evening Daniel Ellsberg was host for a party at the home of Judy Newman in Pacific Heights for environmentalists. Many of these people are also spending hours working at the many telephone banks.

Later that night Britt spoke at the 20th anniversary of the Constantines Motorcycle Club at the California Club. Sunday night he spoke at the anniversary dinner of the Metropolitan Community Church.

Sunday afternoon was filled with Britt appearances. In the early afternoon he was at a fundraiser in a private home in the Castro. He then proceeded to the opening of the Gay Softball League at Lang Field. In the early evening he was at another fundraiser in a private home.

Britt even went to San Jose to appear at a fundraiser at the Billy DeFrank Lesbian & Gay Community Center. The event was sponsored by the South Bay gay political action committee, BAYMEC, and High Tech Gays. In less than two hours the two groups raised almost \$5,000 and pledged to send several people to San Francisco to work on election day.

Tuesday night Trocadero Transfer became the site of an entertainment fundraiser by

Sylvester. The prominent entertainer flew in from New Orleans to appear at the event.

As the Britt campaign builds toward election day, the Nancy Pelosi campaign has been beset by a rash of problems. A worker at the Registrar of Voters office that told a person not to vote for Britt because he was "a homosexual" was suspended from her job.

The Bay Guardian's Tim Redmond unearthed the quote from Pelosi campaign head John Burton that the candidate had spoken on the floor of Congress, but, according to Burton, when Congress wasn't in session. Immediately, many who had hummed a tune at the Opera House were claiming they had sung at the San Francisco Opera. This revelation was in direct contradiction to a claim made in material distributed by Pelosi's campaign.

Another piece of literature stated that Pelosi had "fought" for passage of AB 1, the gay job discrimination legislation. Cleve Jones, who had worked for years on the passage of that bill as an aide to Assemblyman Art Agnos, said, "To my recollection she has never done a thing to help pass this legislation."

Last Wednesday, several tenants' rights groups who learned of the Pelosi record on rent increases turned out at her headquarters to picket.

Rich Hayes, field manager for the Britt campaign, said, "We need volunteers for next week. We will be visiting all the people who have expressed support for Britt or are undecided this weekend." He is asking for a huge show of support this Saturday morning at the Britt headquarters at 25 Van Ness. Those interested should show at 9 a.m.

Any person interested in working on the Britt for Congress campaign can get information by calling 864-6410. ●



Roberta Achtenberg and Sally Gearhart

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

She's Suing To See Son She Fathered

by Will Snyder

Life has never been easy for Stephanie Lawrence. The 32-year-old Phoenix resident has suffered on-the-job harassment and institutionalization. She has been a topless model and dancer. Despite holding a Master's degree in Finance, Stephanie has been forced to turn to a life of prostitution to support herself.

Stephanie is also a transsexual. Before she underwent a sex change, she fathered a child she is now not allowed to see. The wounds run deep for her.

"Transsexuals are one of the most discriminated-against groups of people in this country," Lawrence told the PR Newswire. "No one hesitates to take advantage of us."

She should know. And, she is going to make sure other people know, too. Some time this summer, Lawrence will unveil a new book entitled, *Untold Secrets*. When the untold secrets are told, she maintains, there are going to be some lurid true stories about her affairs with professional sports heroes, jet-setting playboys and influential political figures.

"There are some very interesting names in this book," said Lawrence's business manager, Mitch Saltz. "This is a true story with some really big names."

According to Saltz, the book promises to provide a birds-eye view of life in transition. It is a life of extremes. One day, Stephanie will inherit a portion of the multi-million dollar Lawrence Brothers Manufacturing Co., a leading manufacturer of door hinges and shelf equipment. Despite the inheritance, Lawrence has been banned from the family business.

But that fact seems to fit right in with the confusing way life has gone for Lawrence. As a male child, Lawrence suffered continual harassment from schoolmates for his "feminine" traits. Shortly before going through with a sex change operation, Lawrence fathered a son she has seen just once—from a nursery room win-

dow in Akron, Ohio, the day after he was born.

Lawrence was separated from the mother shortly before the child was born in 1979. Since then, Lawrence has not only been separated from the boy's mother and the boy, but she (Lawrence) has spent several years attempting to locate the pair. A Summit County, Ohio, court denied Lawrence visitation rights in 1984 because of the sex change operations. A Scott County, Iowa justice reaffirmed the Ohio decision two years later. The Iowa judge not only denied visitation, but barred formal communica-



Stephanee Lawrence

tion. Iowa's state Supreme Court upheld a lower court decision.

"If needed, I'll take this to the Supreme Court," said Lawrence, who has spent more than \$30,000 on legal fees and private investigators in an attempt to locate her son. "I will do whatever is required to establish a relationship with my son."

Lawrence said that, "To say that I am no longer a father and have lost the rights to see my child because of the sex change denies me the most basic of rights."

The denial of paternal rights isn't the only area where Lawrence feels she has suffered discrimination. A potential marriage into a New York family fizzled once her background was revealed. Not long ago, her fiancé, the son of a wealthy New York banking family, gave in to outside pressure and ended his relationship after his ex-wife learned of Lawrence's past and threatened to bar him from seeing his children if he continued to live with Lawrence.

Saltz said his client is still looking for a publisher from three candidates. But he added that the book should be in better bookshops everywhere by the end of summer.

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Victory Party

The Victory Party for the Harry Britt for Congress campaign will begin at 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 7, at the Trocadero Transfer. The public is invited and there is no admission charge. Trocadero Transfer is located at 520 Fourth Street, at Bryant, in San Francisco.

COITS Gives to Emergency Fund

The COITS of San Francisco, a 24-year old gay social club which has a record of charitable contributions and charitable work, has given \$550 to the AIDS Emergency Fund, president Larry Hughes announced.

The money was raised from a bake sale and from the profit from a trip taken by the members. The AIDS Emergency Fund uses all of its money for direct help to AIDS patients — there are no salaries or paid personnel.

Joining Hughes in making the presentation of the check to the Fund were Larry Nielsen, COITS treasurer, and Stanley Boyd, COITS coordinator of Skidazzle '87, which was the benefit trip generating the profit for the Fund. The presentation was made to Bill Fink of the AIDS Emergency Fund.

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Headlines

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AB-87 Could Sink On Quarantine Issue

Support for Omnibus AIDS Bill Held Until Quarantine Provision Eliminated

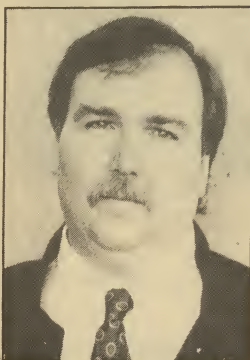
by Charles Linebarger

Assemblyman Art Agnos announced his omnibus AIDS bill (AB-87) with help from U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop and the National Academy of Sciences. The hope was to use their clout to persuade the governor to back the bill, one section of which will protect people with AIDS from discrimination. The result has however been different. Activists are charging that AB-87 will give a license to those who want to begin preparing for a quarantine of those who test HIV antibody positive.

The AIDS omnibus bill, according to Agnos aide Larry Bush, includes a section explicitly extending the state's protections from discrimination against the disabled to include people with AIDS. "In the past, two bills similar to this have been vetoed by the governor," said Bush.

The wide-ranging bill, which is intended to set state policy on AIDS for years to come, will also call for the creation of an AIDS Commission of 21 members to report directly to the governor and the legislature. It also calls for the circulation of Koop's report on AIDS to over 4 million Californians.

However, the part of the bill which has generated the most interest and criticism is an addendum to a policy statement which says that quarantine has no place in the control of AIDS, but allows for an exception for those who are infected with HIV and are deliberately spreading the virus. Quarantine may be necessary in that case, according to the bill's provisions.



Larry Bush (B.A.R. Photo)

"Mobilization Against Aids has three major problems with the bill," said Paul Boneberg, national director of Mobilization. "And we cannot support this AIDS bill as it stands. All AIDS groups in San Francisco share this concern."

Boneberg said his group was against any AIDS legislation which licensed the quarantining of anyone with HIV. He added

that he felt the anti-AIDS discrimination section of the bill was not strong enough. "We want explicit protection for everyone exposed to the virus."

Boneberg also had a problem with the make-up of the new AIDS Commission. "This bill mandates that some high risk groups, such as hemophiliacs, be on the commission but it doesn't mandate inclusion of gays and lesbians."

A meeting with Agnos last week did not totally mollify Boneberg who said that Agnos had not made a commitment to change the bill's controversial wording. But, he added, "I think the bill will be changed and that we will swing in support of a bill that was obviously good intentioned."

Laurie McBride, co-chair of Northern California's CAN (California AIDS Network), was mollified by the meeting with Agnos. "We had a really good meeting with Art, and we have to see the rewritten language. I'm not comfortable with any use of the word 'quarantine.' Art said he was going to change that. I felt he was really listening to the points we were making and that different language will be coming out."

McBride added that she felt it was a "terrific bill anyway." "I don't see this as a major problem."

Keith Griffith of Citizens for Medical Justice, a group usually

(Continued on page 16)

Britt at MCC

Harry Britt will preach at Metropolitan Community Church-S.F. on April 5 at 7 p.m. for the regular Sunday evening worship service at MCC-SF. The church is located at 150 Eureka Street in the Castro. Britt, a former Methodist minister, is currently making an historic bid for the U.S. Congress as an openly gay candidate. All are welcome. ●



Greg Day wants a gay representative on the school board. (Photo: Rink)

Mayor Asked to Name Gay to School Board

by Charles Linebarger

Sup. Harry Britt has asked for a meeting with the mayor to ask her to consider a gay or lesbian appointment to the Board of Education. The congressional candidate's action came only days after Richard Cerbatos resigned from the school board as evidence of conflict of interest came to light.

The seven-member school board now has an opening to which Mayor Dianne Feinstein will be making an appointment in the next few weeks. Cerbatos, the only Filipino-American elected to public office in the city, was first appointed to the school board in 1983. His appointment came only months after a gay man, Tom Ammiano, won 50,000 votes in a city election for the board. Ammiano, a former teacher in the school district, was passed over by Feinstein in favor of Cerbatos, a member of the engineering firm Marion, Cerbatos and Tomasi. Cerbatos has been accused of voting on school board contracts that benefited his firm.

Said Sup. Britt, "It is my sense and I think the sense of many others that a gay or lesbian should be appointed to the open seat on the Board of Education. I believe I'm the only gay the mayor has ever appointed to elective office. It would be of national importance for us to have representation on the school board and it would be a way of insuring that AIDS education is implemented in the schools."

Britt called an impromptu meeting of several gay and lesbian leaders on Monday, Mar. 30, to discuss the issue and to draft a letter to the mayor calling for a meeting to discuss a gay appointment to the school board.

Speaking for Feinstein was Hadley Roth, executive deputy to the mayor, who said, "At this time we're just gathering names. We've heard from several of the gay clubs and from gay individuals who are interested in the job."

Roth said he didn't know when Feinstein would make her choice for the seat. "I would expect soon, as soon as possible, maybe by the end of this week or early next week."

The remaining six members of the Board of Education include representatives from the Latino, Asian, black, and Jewish communities, but there has never been a gay or lesbian on the school board.

Greg Day, of the Larkin Street Youth Center, ran for a seat on the school board last November. At the time, he came in seventh in a field of eight candidates, garnering 40,000 votes.

"We should be on the school board," said Day. "But it's difficult to be elected as a non-incumbent. It would be good if the mayor were to appoint an openly gay or lesbian person to the school board."

"The board needs our help," continued Day, "and it needs the help and involvement of lesbian and gay parents and youth. The school district is in a real management crisis and needs input from all of San Francisco and we're a big part of this city."

Businessman Robert Barnes, has also announced his candidacy for the position. He comes late to school board politics and did not appear before the board last year when a coalition of community leaders including Day, Pat Norman, and gay activist Hank Wilson, presented a series of demands to the school board over a several month period. Barnes last ran for an elected position in 1983 when he tried for the BART board of directors.

Britt summarized the feelings of the gays he met with when he said, "There is a consensus that what needs to happen is a meeting with the mayor to impress upon her the need to appoint a gay or lesbian to the board." The letter from Britt and the group of gay leaders was sent to Feinstein March 30. ●

Women's Gym Needs Bicycle Riders

The Women's Training Center is holding a Bike-A-Thon, to benefit the WTC Legal Defense Fund, on Sunday, April 5. The Women's Center must defend itself in a suit brought by three men claiming anti-male discrimination.

Riders have the choice of two San Francisco courses: a 25-mile Easy Ride (mostly flat) or a 50-mile Intermediate Ride (more hills). Both courses will begin and end at the Women's Training Center, 2164 Market St., S.F. (between Church and Sanchez). Check in between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. the day of the event.

There is a \$12 registration fee. Hard shell helmets are required. For more information call WTC, 864-6835. ●

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SAVAGE PHOTOGRAPHY

On Saturday, March 7, 1987 leaders from virtually every major San Francisco lesbian and gay social service, legal rights, political and AIDS-oriented organization joined in announcing their support of Harry Britt for Congress.

For a decade, Harry Britt has been on the front lines of our community's struggle for freedom and justice. He has led in creating solutions to the challenging problems of anti-gay discrimination, AIDS, police misconduct, anti-gay violence. With his leadership we have grown stronger, prouder and more unified.

Now, the leadership of San Francisco's lesbian and gay community stands united in the historic effort to send an openly gay person to represent our city in the United States Congress.

We can do it. We must do it.

ON APRIL 7TH, JOIN US IN VOTING FOR HARRY BRITT FOR CONGRESS.

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

A Voice For Our Side

When Harvey Milk was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors as the first openly gay politician to be elected anywhere, I eagerly watched that campaign and that success from far away in the Midwest. Harvey Milk wasn't going to be on my hometown city council but it was significant nonetheless to me personally. He knew that his struggle was an advance for all gay people everywhere and often said so in his campaign.

We are at a similar moment in our history with Harry Britt's campaign to represent San Francisco's 5th Congressional District. This election represents not just a chance to elect a truly progressive representative but an opportunity to make history for gay and lesbian people. In a sense, Harry Britt will represent not just this city in the House of Representatives but will speak for millions of gays and lesbians nationwide.

It is time we speak for ourselves in Congress. It is time we advance to the next level of power. The established powers resisted Harvey Milk's efforts to be our voice in City Hall. And the same thing is happening now as we fight to move forward again.

Harry Britt is a voice we've heard. We know what he'll say and that he will speak up for our interests because they are his interests.

He won't need to be instructed on what the issues are. He won't need to be persuaded on what to do about them. He knows; he's been there. Britt will be a strong, articulate voice for gays and lesbians.

On the AIDS crisis, Harry has felt our pain and loss as well as shared our victories. He fought for local funds to fight AIDS before any government wanted to take the epidemic seriously. He's lobbied for state and federal funds for research and treatments. He co-chaired the successful battle against Lyndon LaRouche's quarantine initiative on last year's state ballot.

Harry has been there for us on other issues as well. He pioneered the first proposal extending spousal benefits to gay and lesbian couples. He engineered a strong antidiscrimination ordinance to protect people with ARC and AIDS.

And Harry has done more than champion gay and lesbian rights. He has reached out to fight for other communities and other issues. He's fought for effective rent controls to help lighten the burden on renters. He worked with church leaders to make San Francisco a sanctuary for Central American refugees. He's supported the nuclear freeze movement and joined with the late Rep. Sala Burton in opposing the homeporting of the U.S.S. Missouri.

In each instance, Harry has built up coalitions that he will need in representing the entire 5th District. Britt will go into office with solid connections with Asians, seniors, feminists, the Hispanic and black communities. He has fought against apartheid in South Africa and to divert military spending into needed social programs.

Harry's involvement with and commitment to environmental issues have won him the endorsement of the Sierra Club, the League of Conservation Voters, and San Francisco Tomorrow.

Far from being a one-issue candidate, Harry has taken stands on numerous issues, sometimes on issues that have gotten him no friends in his own community. There are points on which a number of gay and lesbian people have strongly disagreed with him — including this newspaper. But many have put past disagreement aside to unite behind Harry. The reason: there is too much to be gained by having Harry Britt in Congress.

Because Harry has been a clear, convincing voice on gay and lesbian issues, because he has conscientiously built up multi-issue coalitions in a number of San Francisco communities, because he is an experienced politician, knowledgeable in how things get done — vote for Harry Britt for Congress Tuesday, April 7.

Ray O'Loughlin

OPINION

People Power Will Decide This Election

by Sup. John Molinari

I am supporting Harry Britt for Congress because I firmly believe that of all the candidates running, Harry will best serve the city's interests.

In addition to sending the most qualified person to Congress, San Franciscans are presented with the historic opportunity of sending an openly gay person to Washington. In the midst of the AIDS epidemic, we need his voice and his skills very badly.

Under normal circumstances, a member of Congress elected in a special election would be invisible in Washington. In a crowd of 434 other members, all of them with more seniority, a freshman member of Congress would take years to become known and take power. But when Harry Britt goes to Washington, he will have instant recognition. The eyes of every member of Congress will be upon him. And more importantly, Harry will be covered by the national and international press as he presses the urgency of lesbian and gay issues.

As a supervisor, I have worked closely with Harry for eight years. We have co-sponsored a great deal of legislation together to increase AIDS funding and assure the civil rights of gay men and lesbians. I have the utmost respect for Harry as a courageous and effective legislator who has taken on some of the city's most controversial issues and passed important laws to address them.

Perhaps Harry's greatest strength is his ability to build relationships with people from diverse constituencies, the effect of which has been increased awareness of the needs of the lesbian and gay community. More than any other individual, he has helped to educate San Franciscans about the needs and goals of the gay community.

I was tremendously impressed with Harry when, in 1986, he and I traveled to Washington to lobby key members of Congress and the Administration for increased AIDS funding. Speaking eloquently and from the heart to congressmen from the deep South and East Coast, he was able to communicate, in a way others simply cannot, the magnitude of the AIDS crisis and the responsibility of Congress to address it fully. Harry knows how to win people over.

With Harry Britt in Washington, our country will be forced to deal with AIDS as it has not before. San Franciscans, straight and gay, and indeed, all Americans, will profit by his election.

On April 7, we have the wonderful opportunity to send a legislator of enormous skill and courage to represent us in Washington. I strongly urge you to take advantage of this opportunity not just by voting for Harry on April 7, but by getting involved in the most crucial aspect of his campaign — the Get-Out-the-Vote effort. This election could be



Sups. Harry Britt and John Molinari (Photo: J.D. Dusch)

decided by several hundred votes, and "people power" could decide this outcome. Call 864-6410 to find out how you can help elect Harry Britt to Congress.

A Place at the Table

★ As an elected official, I am writing to urge Bay Area Reporter readers in San Francisco to support Harry Britt for Congress.

Harry is a man of great ability, enormous compassion, and proud, significant accomplishments. By any standard, in any district, Harry Britt would make an outstanding member of the United States House of Representatives.

Sup. Britt's candidacy is a historic opportunity for our community. My chief reason for writing is to confirm my conviction, based on my own two-plus years of public service, that there is no substitute for having our own "place at the table."

We have good, courageous friends and supporters in public office from the courthouse to the United States Congress; in Harry we have a very real chance to take our own place at this most significant "table."

I submit this consideration supercedes all others.

**Tom Nolan, President
Board of Supervisors
San Mateo County**

Hearing Voices

★ On Feb. 25 I went to a house party where Nancy Pelosi spoke. Most of the women at the party were lesbians. Most were progressive. When I asked Pelosi about her stance on the USS Missouri, she said she was against homeporting. Yes, she continued on about supporting Boxer's legislation to take nuclear weapons off homeported vessels. But she gofied and said she was against homeporting, when in actuality we know she's since stated her affirmation for the Missouri's home in our port.

So, why did she lie? I don't think it was because she's a sleazy politician. I think it was because she is an inexperienced politician. She was in a room full of women—most of whom are against the Missouri—and she couldn't handle the pressure of speaking against prevailing thought. She didn't know how to handle a simple question.

A good fundraiser doesn't necessarily make the best representative. The USS Missouri flip-flop begs the question, *what will the voice be saying?* Perhaps even more important, *what voices will Pelosi hear?*

**Diana Christensen
San Francisco**

Action

★ Last week's edition carried a report of a complaint filed against an employee of the office of the Registrar of Voters for making a comment to a voter about one of the candidates running for the Fifth Congressional District seat.

As members of the Citizen's Advisory Committee on Elections, and on behalf of the Committee, we inquired of Registrar Jay Patterson and his supervisor, Michelle Corwin, what action had been taken in response to the allegation of improper conduct.

The employee admitted the accuracy of the substance of the complaint and has been suspended for one week without pay. This action is in addition to whatever action may be taken by the U.S. Attorney or the District Attorney.

The employee's misconduct occurred after the staff had been fully trained not to comment in any fashion about any of the candidates. Subsequent to the misconduct, the staff has been retrained to assure that such problems do not occur again.

We and the other members of the Advisory Committee on Elections are concerned about this incident and will continue to monitor the situation.

**Lawrence A. Wilson
Richmond Young
San Francisco**

Basic Questions

★ The following was sent to *Coming Up!*:

Because *Coming Up!* has been such a consistently progressive voice in the lesbian/gay community, we were profoundly disappointed and disturbed by your endorsement of Nancy Pelosi over Harry Britt. We found its premise flawed, its perspective shortsighted, and its publication politically damaging to the community.

Taken together, "The Trouble With Harry" and the Pelosi piece capitulate to the narrowest mainstream media/social studies textbook view of politics as simply contests of "style" and "effectiveness." You drop out the most basic questions that must be asked in any race: What do the candidates stand for? Who are they accountable to? Who pays their bills and whose interests will they serve?

This is not a race between two front runners with roughly equivalent liberal views and backing. Harry Britt is working from a broad base of support built over years in office—support from the lesbian/gay community, but also from tenants, seniors, ethnic mi-

nority communities, labor unions, peace and social change activists of all stripes.

Nancy Pelosi has no constituency. She is the candidate of the downtown interests and the Democratic Party establishment—Dianne Feinstein and company. They are footing the bills, to the tune of \$1000-a-plate campaign dinners, and they will have the pull when Pelosi casts her votes in Congress.

Harry Britt, as you acknowledge, has a solid progressive voting record on issues from gay rights to city workers' rights, divestment in South Africa to development in San Francisco.

Pelosi has no record. The strength of her liberal campaign rhetoric has not been tested in the heat of political battles. Even her campaign stands on some issues are questionable. It's easier these days to be against Contra funding, but Pelosi supports harboring the USS Missouri in San Francisco, battle-ready for Central America. No San Francisco politician could not support dramatic increases in AIDS funding—but as the skyrocketing costs of the disease impoverish individuals and put the squeeze on public hospitals and clinics, where is she on national health care?

But even more is at stake than the election of someone who has the basis to be truly accountable and accessible to their grassroots supporters—because elections are about more than candidates. As every disenfranchised group in this country has learned, campaigns can be tools for empowerment, for long-term movement building as well as short-term gains. What the work on Britt's campaign can do is help strengthen our organizing; deepen our knowledge, sharpen our skills, forge the constituency and the coalitions that will last beyond this contest to the next and the next.

Working for Pelosi will not help build our movement and once elected she will owe us little. The argument to support her boils down to a fashionably redecorated version of the tired argument that "our liberal friends" can do more for us than we can do for ourselves.

**Marcy Rein, Pam David, Simi Litvak,
Roma Guy, Jean Crosby, Priscilla Alexander, Joy Schulenburg, Larry Burnett, Randy Schell, Suzanne Gautier, Marcia Gallo, Sushawn Robb, Larry Brikin, Jan Keith, Barbara Maggiani, Eileen Hansen, Albert Lucero, Doug Yaranon, Douglas Conrad, Richard Birchard, Michael Foo**

Deals

★ I agree with the sentiment of your Mar. 26 editorial "Call Damage Control," but you were incorrect on one of your facts. Art Agnos has *not* endorsed Nancy Pelosi and, unlike Willie Brown and Leo McCarthy, is *not* opposing Harry Britt. He has instead remained neutral—which is a principled, courageous position, considering Britt's backroom deal with Agnos' opponent in the mayor's race, John Molinari; and the fact that by refusing to endorse Pelosi, Agnos is risking losing the support of key Democrats like Pelosi, Brown and McCarthy.

For the next eight months before the mayoral election we are going to hear all sorts of righteous talk from certain Molinari supporters about the fact that he endorsed Harry Britt while Agnos did not. Luckily, lesbian and gay voters are not as stupid as these Molinari partisans think. It is common knowledge that Molinari conditioned his support of Britt on Britt agreeing to support Molinari for mayor—despite the fact that Molinari has consistently opposed Britt's progressive agenda on the Board of Supervisors.

While Molinari, like Agnos, has been a friend of our community, it is obvious that his deal with Britt had little to do with a commitment to electing gay candidates, but rather was a cynical attempt to win over gays and progressives to his campaign for mayor. If Britt had not agreed to a deal, Molinari would have made the same offer to Pelosi or Maher or one of the other candidates for Congress.

It is counterproductive to Harry Britt's election effort to be using it as a vehicle to trash Art Agnos. I am confident that a majority of Britt's hardworking grassroots volunteers like myself are progressives who also support Agnos. Rather than trying to create dissension, you should be trying to promote respect and cooperation between backers of both candidates for mayor so we can accomplish our common objective of electing Harry Britt to Congress.

**Paul H. Melhostad
San Francisco**

ED. NOTE: Mr. Agnos may have wisely chosen to be publicly neutral in his endorsements, but it is also "common knowledge" that he has been involved in "backroom deals" on behalf of the old machine, specifically to get Bill Maher out of Nancy Pelosi's way to run against Independent Sen. Quentin Kopp in 1990.

Ray O'Loughlin

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INTELLIGENTS

Get Off Your Duff

★ I read your editorial "United We Stand" and agree thoroughly with you that one of our own people should represent us in Congress.

Although Mrs. Pelosi promises billions for AIDS from her politician friends in Congress, I wonder, She dropped the Gay & Lesbian Caucus and Asian Caucus after the 1984 convention. She hasn't worked for gay men and lesbians since 1977.

I've lost friends to this epidemic and I plead with my brothers and sisters to support Harry Britt for Congress. Let's send Ronald (Mr. Neglect) Reagan a message April 7. Mr. President get off your duff and support AIDS education and research, not missiles and Star Wars all the time!

Gary Patterson
San Francisco

Explanation, Please

★ I bowled in the GSL fundraiser at Park Bowl on Sunday, Mar. 22. As most people know, GSL is the Gay Softball League and San Francisco is the site of the Gay World Series this year. The GSL features both men's and women's teams.

The GSL fundraiser promoted a feeling of good-will between the teams and was to have culminated in a "roll-off" between the top eight teams at approximately 5:30 p.m. However due to lane breakdowns, the fundraiser ran overtime and the final games did not actually prepare to begin until shortly after 6 p.m.

The league that was regularly scheduled to bowl after the fundraiser voted not to let the "roll-off" happen. I was very angry, most of all disappointed, as the league was a "dyke" league.

Our lesbian sisters are always spouting off how much they want unity between themselves and gay men and then disallow a fundraising activity to finish. Why? Would forty-five minutes really have hurt them? There were many of us who waited all day at the bowling alley and gave up our entire Sunday for this fundraiser. Maybe this year the parade committee should consider putting the Dykes on Bikes at the end of the parade, then let's see how many people wait for them to pass by!

I really would appreciate an answer from the president of this selfish bowling league explaining why they voted not to let the fundraiser finish.

Tom Begano
San Francisco

Where Trojan Dares Not Tread

★ Last month Mayer Laboratories reserved commercial space in the upcoming April 15 issue of the Bay Area Reporter to advertise Kimono condoms, our line of premium quality transparent condoms imported from Japan. A seemingly routine business arrangement? Not in the context of Joe DiSabato's excellent news analysis piece (B.A.R. 3/19) on the nonrelationship between the major condom companies and the gay community.

Kimono condoms are new to the market, and Oakland-based Mayer laboratories is not (yet) the size of a Carter-Wallace or an Ansell. But it sure didn't take us over a year-and-a-half of "studying" the gay market to figure out that it makes sense to direct our condoms and accompanying educational literature to the gay community. I, along with our staff and consultants—who share extensive background in public health—have been well aware of the lack of response to AIDS and to the gay community on the part of the major condom companies. And for our part, we are quite happy to fill in where Trojan "dares" not tread.

Mayer Laboratories has made a commitment to social responsibility—to promote condom use for safer sex in both the gay and heterosexual populations, in addition to providing a superior product for people who care for their health and pleasure, and for that of their partners.

David P. Mayer, President
Mayer Laboratories
Oakland

ED. NOTE: The ad mentioned was placed prior to the Mar. 19 publication of Joe DiSabato's article.

Ray O'Loughlin

Aris Project

★ I just wanted to share with the rest of the world, one of the greatest experiences I stumbled onto last year. All of us have seen AIDS afflicting someone close to us. I had heard of many support groups and services in San Francisco, but had no idea that one even existed in the South Bay. For some strange reason I thought that the best services for ARC and AIDS were in the city. Undoubtedly this is true, but there are also some dynamic services and people here

and the Aris Project seems to be in the forefront of it all.

I got involved with Aris late last year when one of my friends was diagnosed with KS. The year-long struggle was filled with some trying moments and my support group was always there reaching out to help me through those rough times. I have to admit I was skeptical of Aris at first. There are all kinds of services springing up with the AIDS crisis and there is some speculation if they are all motivated in the same direction.

I am amazed at the amount of love that is generated through Aris that is helping people whether straight or gay get through these hard times. The volunteers work effortlessly for long hours with the rest of us sometimes sacrificing family and social events in the process. They do not have all the answers but being there sometimes is more than enough. They are an extremely well organized group of men and women who are fighting this crisis with all the limited resources they have but at the same time reaching out to a vast majority in the South Bay.

When my friend passed away, I felt an urgent need for support and I turned to Aris right away. My volunteers Judy and Peter with the group gave me all the love and support I needed at the time. I am sure I will need more, and I know Aris will not be far away. It has changed my life and confirmed that we all need each other.

Roland Borges
San Jose

Get Real!

★ Let's be real! About the last person we want to send to Washington is a millionaire. We've heard their boring voice too many times, far too long.

Give Harry the support we all deserve.

Fred Siwak
San Francisco

Objectivity?

★ Having read Marshall Kilduff's "profile" of Sup. Harry Britt, I find myself stunned by his objectivity. "Nerdlike laugh?" "Ultraliberals?" "Touchy-feely jargon?" "... goddamn socialist? ..." "... one-trick pony ...?"

Come on, Mr. Kilduff. Why don't you come out of your closet and call him a "commie faggot?" And why not read a "deep-think tome" someday too, when you're in the mood to develop some intellectual skills?

Jack Collins
San Francisco

Women's Recovery Group

★ Because of the epidemic numbers of gay people affected by alcoholism and drug abuse, this disease is the most serious health and social problem of our community today. The subject of chemical addiction requires our attention as much as that of AIDS and ARC, or any other life-threatening disease. The issues of recovery from chemical dependence are as complex and profound as the disease itself.

It is not enough simply to stop drinking and/or using, even though this is the evident necessary beginning. To stay sober, one must start living in a new way and begin to realize one's freedom to choose lifestyle, feelings, behavior, relationships, etc.

Alcohol and drugs are a general anesthetic, and the use of these substances can be thought of as a means of numbing out pain and other unwanted feelings. It is important in long-range recovery to get to the pain and to put it in its proper perspective.

In reference to people who are ill and/or aging, much has been said regarding the issue of "quality of life." The opinion has been expressed that it is not just the number of days lived out that determines whether the life is worthwhile, but the caliber of that living.

Such "quality of life" issues are paralleled in recovery from chemical dependence. Once abstinent, the alcoholic/addict enters a subsequent stage of recovery which is largely relational and spiritual. Because abstinence in and of itself assures neither maturity nor spiritual growth, there is a need in the recovering community for ways of exploring and developing our own personal potential.

One thing we know about recovering alcoholic/addicts is that they make their best progress in the group setting. Many people get sidetracked in their spiritual journey because they find a guru or a new religion and may miss the essence of spiritual discovery in a safe environment.

An ongoing women's group for enhancing our spiritual development is now accepting new members with six months or more clean and sober. Other dependencies are welcome. Interested women may call me at 239-4965.

Ruth A. Gabriel
San Francisco

We Owe It to Ourselves

★ I urge every gay man and lesbian to get out and vote for Harry Britt on April 7! Issues of personal style, policy positions and individual influence are moot points considering the positive results Britt's election to Congress would have.

Like it or not, politicians and others in positions of power are watching this election to see if the gay community has the clout to elect "one of their own." The election of another candidate, for any reason, will create the impression that the gay community is weak and politically unimportant. That will have a far-reaching devastating effect on our community.

I am certain that many politicians and opinion leaders who have claimed to be our "friends" will suddenly no longer be so supportive. In these times of the AIDS crisis when we have had to turn our attention to each other and somewhat away from political action, we need the election of an openly gay candidate to serve notice that we have not been weakened, but are in fact stronger than ever. The simple fact of Harry's election will give us all more influence.

Gay versus straight has become an issue in this campaign. It is okay to have a gay supervisor, but a gay congressman? There was a time when a gay supervisor was unacceptable, now the board wouldn't be complete without one (or more). The legacy left by Congressman Britt would allow future congressional candidates to run for office on their merits, unencumbered by sexual orientation.

We have here the opportunity to elect more than just a congressman for this geographical area. Regardless of personal influence, Nancy Pelosi will simply be part of the Capitol Hill Crowd which has failed to support issues of importance to the gay community. Harry's strength is that we will not join the crowd. His is "a voice that will be heard" above the others.

By electing Harry Britt we will be electing not only a good local representative but a national spokesman for all gay people. This voice will move our cause forward dramatically. Those with the courage to give Harry a chance must vote on April 7. With the low voter turn-out expected, our commitment is what's needed to put him over the top.

Harry is on the right side of the issues, committed to his beliefs and honest, which is more than you can say for a lot of politicians. Let's demonstrate, yet again, that we are strong, united and a force to be reckoned with.

The noise of a Britt victory will reverberate across the country for years to come. His power will come from the new-found power of his constituency—District 5 and gay people everywhere. We owe it to ourselves and our gay brothers and sisters across America to elect Harry Britt!

Adrian R. Fischer
San Francisco

Historic Opportunity

★ On Tuesday, April 7, we will have the opportunity to participate in history. This will be a first and a giant step for us. It could be another 200 years before this happens again. There has yet to be a gay or lesbian voice that could not be heard; especially when it comes to equal rights and the AIDS crises.

Regardless of what Pelosi says, we will never be a priority on her agenda. We've learned that lesson from past politicians who have solicited our support. Twenty-three million lesbians and gay men in this country are counting on us to elect Harry Britt for their benefit, as well as our own.

Ronald T. Pannell
San Francisco

The Pope and Hospice

★ As a registered nurse and patient advocate I have cared for many of the dying over the years including many of who were personal friends whom I loved dearly. For many of these dying, there was always an attempt to resolve conflicts or concerns before finally leaving this lifetime. For patients there was a need to resolve financial problems, but with most that I have observed was the overwhelming need to resolve sometimes painful spiritual and emotional conflict. I feel we must do all we can to provide whatever means available to assist these dying individuals obtain peace and tranquility during their final days.

There has been talk that if the pope plans to visit patients at Coming Home Hospice in the Castro area, that there may be demonstrations in an attempt to block his visit there. I think we should all agree that the pope has every right to visit wherever he chooses. I am sure that he is fully aware by now that his presence in San Francisco will not be without some form of controversy. We must also agree that every citizen has the right to assemble in a peaceful manner in order to express whatever views they feel they must share publicly. This is the right to demonstrate.

Let me say as a gay man, I too am unhappy about a papal visit to San Francisco. The church's recent dogma declaring homosexuality as "inherently evil" is sure to erupt many uncomfortable feelings at a time others may feel there should be cause for celebration. I fully intend to make my voice heard in one form or another, but it will not be at the expense of denying the terminally ill their right to have access to the pope for whatever personal reasons they may have. Any public demonstration that would inhibit that access would be a disservice to those who we love and who are dying.

Renny Marinaccioni, R.N.
San Francisco

How to Elect Harry

★ Plenty of good reasons have been offered for why we faithful gays and lesbians should elect Harry Britt to the U.S. Congress. Here's how.

My non-gay friends and neighbors have become even closer with me recently, as they've learned the seriousness and truth about aids. I am going to tell them, simply that I'm voting April 7 for Harry Britt, because it's crucial for the whole community and the AIDS crisis.

I think they'll join me.

Steve Wynn
San Francisco

Security Risks

★ Here we go again. Seems another heterosexual—a Marine, (the ones who make men?) has been caught exchanging sex for top secrets.

I don't know why these heterosexuals can't control their sexual urges. You just can't trust these heterosexuals. They are constantly selling out the country and the people of this nation. The papers have been full of these kinds of people, and I do not understand why the government hires them. It is obvious they are a danger to the country and untrustworthy to be hired to work on any sort of level. They should never be given any kind of job in which security is needed and the safety of the nation is at stake.

They (heterosexuals) constantly are showing themselves as high security risks. Considering how they bitch about gays being "security risks," tell me another joke!

Vernon Link
San Francisco

Give and Take

★ I read with some concern the comments of Dr. Donald Chambers of the Health Insurance Association in yesterday's Examiner to the effect that the population at high risk for AIDS was being unfairly subsidized by the other sectors of society. I would like suggest that Dr. Chambers remarks betray a seriously flawed understanding of the concept of insurance, as well as the moral sensibility of a sparrow hawk.

Dr. Chambers might do well to reflect on the fact that the gay population presently at highest risk for AIDS has for years been paying health insurance premiums that have covered the costs of child-bearing for the heterosexual population. This same group, moreover, has paid school taxes to educate other people's children. We have not looked at these expenses as an "unfair subsidy" of heterosexuals, but as one part of our contribution to a healthy society which strives to accord to each of its members those goods and services to which they are entitled as members of the human family.

Life in a civilized society entails, of necessity, a good deal of give and take among the various groups and individuals which constitute that society. Ideas such as those put forth by Dr. Chambers destroy the social fabric and lead us back to the war of each against all.

Christopher D. Butler
San Francisco

Carpetbagger

★ Wayne Friday's column in your Mar. 19 issue comments on Nancy Pelosi's misuse of a letter from the National Gay & Lesbian Democratic Clubs. Her ad in the same issue (page 11) carried a copy of that letter, but it was strange that she whited out her street address. Perhaps she was hoping nobody would notice that she didn't live in the fifth district, but has just started renting here in order to run for Congress.

It's bad enough that they don't think a gay man can represent us in Congress, but then they send in a carpetbagger to take the job.

John W. Atteridge
San Francisco



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Wayne Friday

Harry Britt For Congress

Making history ten years ago felt good. Next Tuesday's (April 7) special election for Congress will be a very important milestone in our community's history. Exactly ten years ago this year Harvey Milk won election to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

Members of the board were elected by district then, and District 5—which included Noe Valley, the Castro and the Haight-Ashbury—was regarded as the most sophisticated, well-informed and politically-active part of town.

Along with the largest concentration of gay men and lesbians in San Francisco, District 5 included the most active neighborhood groups, the most ardent environmentalists, the most progressive union households, the most organized housing advocates, and very significant numbers of Blacks, Latinos and Asians.

It was a hotly competitive and very difficult campaign, and Harvey faced tremendous odds. Several other gay candidates were in that race, including one endorsed and financed by the Burton/McCarthy/Brown machine. That candidate and several others had, by 1977 standards, huge amounts of money to spend.

Those of us who worked on Harvey's 1977 campaign sensed victory was within reach, but we felt constantly outgunned by the powerful interests that didn't want anyone too independent—or too gay—in a position of power. They blanketed the district with expensive posters, mailers, and even radio commercials. We scrimped and pinched and squeezed every dime, while Harvey's opponents unleashed their torrent of money.

Sometimes it got downright discouraging, but we had a more powerful weapon—and it wasn't any secret. We had hundreds of committed volunteers who flocked to Harvey's campaign because he was right on the issues and had a proven track record of fighting for the issues people cared about.

On election day, Harvey won easily—with more votes than any other candidate in any other district in the city except Quentin Kopp, who ran unopposed in his district.

A decade ago Harvey Milk made history with the support not only of gay people, but of thousands of other voters who cared deeply about their city and wanted the best possible person to represent them at City Hall. Together, Harvey Milk and his supporters beat the establishment and their anointed candidates—not by matching their money and their big-name endorsements, but by carrying Milk's message door-to-door, face-to-face with the voters.

And that's what Tuesday's election for Congress is all about.

On all the major issues—affordable housing, protecting the environment from toxic hazards, downtown development, pay equity for women and minorities, domestic partners legislation, police reform, ending our nation's dependence on weapons production as a quick fix for our crumbling economy—Harry Britt has stood up and challenged the establishment.

Add to that Harry's insistence



Harry Britt and Roberta Achtenberg at the women's rally for Britt.
(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

that antidiscrimination protections for lesbians and gay men be expanded at every possible opportunity, and you can then understand why the Chronicle, Examiner, and Progress, the big corporate Political Action Committees, the American Medical Association, highrise developers, machine politicians and other protectors of the *status quo* don't want an independent Harry Britt stirring things up in Washington. And that's why Britt's major opponent has all the money she needs to manufacture the illusion that she has a "record" on the issues.

Anyone who follows City Hall politics knows that no other supervisor has produced more significant legislation on a wider range of issues than has Harry Britt. No other member of the Board of Supervisors has a broader-based constituency of seniors, renters, women, ethnic communities, neighborhood residents, merchants, environmentalists, and peace activists than Harry Britt.

By any ordinary standard of electability, Harry Britt should run away with this election—but for one sad reality we all must face. Many voters simply are not ready to have a gay man represent them in Congress. Homophobia is a strong undercurrent in this election; make no mistake about that. Sometimes it has surfaced in all its ugliness as in the recent Paul Shinoff column in the Examiner, but more often it has lurked just beneath the surface, hiding under concerns about "traditional family values."

Harry Britt has emerged nationally as an articulate, outspoken critic of the religious and political reactionaries who are determined to discredit and destroy our movement. There is little doubt that Harry Britt's presence in Congress will draw additional attention to the need for an aggressive, effective federal response to the AIDS crisis. No non-gay politician can speak with the passion and conviction of Harry Britt, because, frankly, no non-gay politician is as informed and experienced as Harry Britt in every aspect of the AIDS crisis.

Our community has always had its timid souls for whom the time is never right to strike out on

our own, to accomplish for ourselves what no "friend," no matter how well-meaning, can accomplish for us. Ten years ago these people tried to stop Harvey Milk because he wasn't perfect. Now, they're trying to stop Harry Britt because he isn't perfect. If we follow them this time, I can assure you that we won't have a gay representative in Congress for decades. Our chance to make history will have passed us by. We can't let this happen, and we won't let it happen.

Your vote can make the difference in this very important election—vote for Harry Britt next Tuesday.

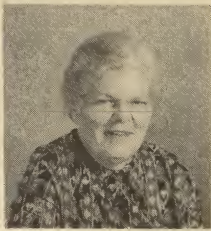
Project Inform Hosts Forum on Treatments

Project Inform leaders Joseph Brewer and Martin Delaney will host another in the continuing series of public forums on the available experimental drugs used in the treatment of AIDS and ARC at the Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka Street, San Francisco, on Monday, April 6, at 7:30 p.m.

Delaney recently appeared on the Phil Donahue Show (shown April 1 on Channel 7) with New York writer and activist Larry Kramer and Tom Stoddard, director of Lambda Legal Defense Fund. They addressed many of the controversial problems arising from recent FDA licensing of the drug AZT; the lack of coordinated governmental direction in the testing of AIDS/ARC drugs; the questionable practice (and historical first) of FDA allowing a drug manufacturer (Burroughs Wellcome) to effectively decide who will be eligible to obtain the only FDA approved AIDS treatment drug; and the controversy over the exceedingly high costs of AZT.

Both Brewer and Delaney encourage attendance at the very important town meeting and promise that it will be informative and stimulating. Project Inform has taken the position of publicly protesting the apparent prejudices demonstrated by FDA in holding back the research and licensing of promising AIDS/ARC drug treatments.

“Why We Think Nancy Pelosi Will Be The Gay Community’s Best Representative in Congress”



“Nancy Pelosi is an experienced activist in the Democratic Party, a feminist, a woman of profound political substance, and a person eminently qualified to carry San Francisco’s progressive agenda to Congress.”

Del Martin
Author, *Battered Wives*, Co-Author *Lesbian/Woman*



“Nancy Pelosi will advocate tougher laws to combat rape, child abuse, and family violence. She will also be a strong ally in our efforts to make our streets and neighborhoods safer for women and children.”

Jane McKaskle Murphy
Former San Francisco Police Commissioner



Photo: Rink

“Nancy Pelosi has been using her leadership positions—including her position as State Chair of the Democratic Party—to work for social change. Her knowledge of the systems, the players and the issues will be invaluable for a first time congressperson.”

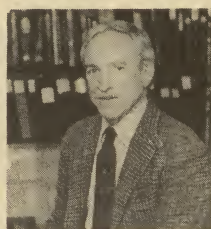
Paula Lichtenberg
Member San Francisco N.O.W. Political Action Committee



Photo: Rink

“Nancy Pelosi can be counted on to do the job right the first time.”

Don Disler
Attorney,
Board Member Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance



“With her knowledge of Washington, D.C., we will have someone who is accessible and full of energy to voice our concerns to Congress.”

James Hormel
Founding Director, Human Rights Campaign Fund
Board Member, 18th Street Services

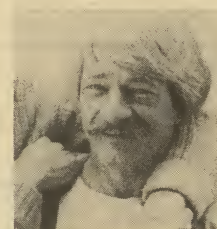


Photo: Rink

“This election is not a gay issue. It is about who is the best person with the ability to get money for AIDS funding. I want to vote for the best person: Nancy Pelosi.”

Zon Artman
Former Director AIDS Information Office
San Francisco Department of Public Health

“Nancy Pelosi will be our best voice in Congress”

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United Auto Workers

Democratic Women’s Forum
Coming Up! Newspaper
Filipino Democratic Club
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Golden Gate Democratic Club
Calif. Classroom Teachers Assoc.
Hotel & Restaurant Emp., Local 2



“We recognize that less than one out of ten families is now a traditional nuclear family. To protect the rights of every individual within these new realities of our culture, we propose opposing laws that discriminate against persons in employment, housing, credit, legal rights, education, and immigration, based on sexual preference.”

—As Chair of California State Democratic Party, Nancy Pelosi fought successfully to get these words into the 1982 party platform

Nancy Pelosi is the voice that will be heard in the House and the Senate of the United States Congress

Paid for by the Gay/Lesbian Committee to Elect Nancy Pelosi to Congress, P.O. Box 183, San Francisco, CA 94101. Treasurer—William Russell Shaprio



'This election says that the lesbian/gay community is strong . . . because we have worked hard together and we have made a lot of friendships.'

—Harry Britt

Mike Hippler

A Politics of Hope

Too often lately, I have heard people ask, "Why should I vote for Britt just because he's gay?" They should not, of course.

Even Harry Britt doesn't want people to vote for him for that reason alone: "I'm not asking people to do that. It's important that [the gay] community be represented in Washington, but people shouldn't vote for me unless they think I'll be an effective representative."

He can best do this, he states, by letting Congress know what the majority of San Franciscans, gay and straight, want, whether it be more money for AIDS-related causes or an end to U.S. involvement in Central America.

Nevertheless, he does plan to act as a spokesperson for lesbian and gay rights once he is elected. "There is not a single place in national issues where lesbian and gay concerns do not need to be addressed. I will make sure that all 434 of my colleagues get the

very strong message that I expect them to be responsive to gay rights legislation. If they're not, I'll spend whatever time I need with them to see why," says Britt.

Most important of these lesbian and gay concerns, Britt states, is the AIDS epidemic. "My office has been an organizing center for fighting the epidemic since it began. I have lobbied Willie Brown, the mayor, and members of Congress effectively, but we can be a great deal more effective from Washington than we can from here. One thing that has never happened in Congress and will happen when I go is that I will hire the best possible person I can find to work on AIDS full-time."

Britt is well aware that once he is in Congress he will represent not only gay and straight voters in his own district but also gay and lesbian people everywhere. "As I have traveled around the country and helped other lesbian and gay communities organize their political efforts, I have found a strong sense that we need a word of hope, especially at a time when we are fighting for our lives. Harvey Milk said that's what politicians are supposed to do — give hope to people. I believe that sending me to Washington will be a positive step in that direction."

One way to inspire gay people, Britt continues, is to demonstrate strength. "The world is not going to deal with us until we show them that we are strong, that we can represent our own agenda without depending on other people to speak for us."

"One thing this election says is that the lesbian/gay community is strong in this city, not because of our numbers, but because we have worked hard together, and we have made a lot of friendships. That I have the support of the Chinese-American Democratic Club, the District Eight Democratic Club, and a lot of labor unions attests to our roles as leaders in this city. It also means that the city is prepared to believe that a gay man can represent all San Franciscans."

Even if he should lose the election, Britt says, "This will still be a very positive step forward for our community. We will clearly come out of this campaign as much more unified and stronger. All the in-fighting between the lesbian/gay Democratic clubs is over now, and a lot of people are coming into the political world from other places." He mentioned Bay Area Career Women,

CCBA, the Gay Games, and Mobilization Against AIDS.

"The beneficial effects of this will be in our community for a long time," says Britt. Furthermore, in terms of political effectiveness, serious people are most impressed with what is going on right now. The press, for instance, looks at what's happening here and sees power."

Power, of course, is useless unless it is used wisely. Britt plans to use his office to pursue the same kind of interests he has pursued at City Hall. There, he is most proud of his AIDS antidiscrimination ordinance and his successful efforts to increase AIDS funding.

"I'm also proud of my energy ordinance, the antiapartheid ordinance that I sponsored, my efforts to pass domestic partners legislation, and certainly my efforts on behalf of tenants and small business people. I sponsored the city's comparable worth policy, and I was active in the movements to get rid of Marcos and to lobby for a nuclear freeze."

On a personal level, becoming a Congressman means a lot to Britt. As a member of the Board of Supervisors, he states, he has given up a great deal of privacy, and as a Congressman, he will give up still more. "But it's a challenge, and that's exciting. The people I take with me and I may have a big impact. If a person's life in some small way can contribute to the advancement of a great cause, that's very gratifying."

"In politics, you're not going to please everybody, but what makes me feel good about my work is that the people I respect most tell me that I have done right by Harvey Milk's tradition. And I must have done something right, or I wouldn't be taking this seriously."

Cable Car Awards Televised

Male Entertainment Network (MEN) announces the video of the 1987 Cable Car Awards has been completed and will be televised this Monday, April 6, at 8:30 p.m. on Viacom Cable Channel 6 in San Francisco. Although the show has been produced for a live audience for the past 12 years, this year marks the first time the awards show has ever been televised.

The show has been edited to bring it in just under two hours, but nearly every award has been included.

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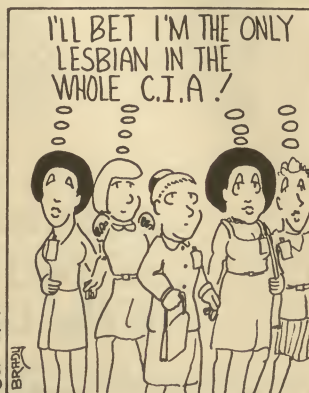
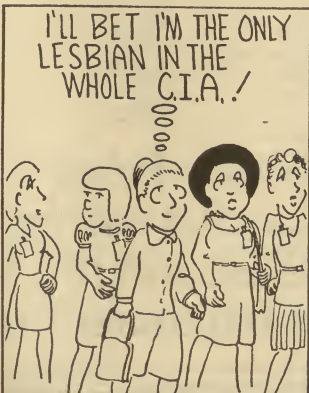
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Du Pont, NY Blood Center In Research Agreement

WILMINGTON, DE — The Du Pont Co. and the New York Blood Center today announced they have entered into a three-year research agreement aimed at reducing the threat of blood-transmitted diseases.

The agreement permits joint development and evaluation of new products, tests and instrumentation discovered by either party. It will be administered by a coordinating committee that will be responsible for establishing broad strategic outlines and selecting specific projects for collaboration.

The largest organization of its kind in the world; the New York Blood Center is recognized as a major contributor to transfusion medicine research. Its Lindsley F. Kimball Research Institute has been a leader in the development and testing of vaccines for blood-transmitted diseases such as Hepatitis B.

The institute recently developed an AIDS Immune Globulin and a virus sterilization process, based on the use of lipid solvents and detergents, that inactivates the viruses which cause Hepatitis B, Hepatitis non-A and non-B, and AIDS, in plasma products.

The New York Blood Center also introduced the use of frozen blood for transfusion and tests for Hepatitis B as a routine screen for donor blood, and pioneered the use of bar codes to improve the efficiency and safety of blood transfusion.

Du Pont has become increasingly involved in the blood bank area since it introduced an AIDS antibody screening test in 1985. In addition to testing products for AIDS and hepatitis, the company offers a broad line of research products, virology products and centrifuges, and in 1985 acquired a substantial minority interest in Haemonetics, which manufactures equipment for separating and cleaning blood cells and for transfusions.

—PR Newswire

Dutch Propose AIDS Border Test

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — Dutch Justice Minister Frits Korthals Altes has called for a conference of the 12 European Community member nations to discuss AIDS tests on non-EC nationals arriving at EC borders and ports of entry.

According to Associated Press, Korthals Altes said such a conference of the member nations' health, justice and interior ministers should be held as soon as possible to deal with the issue of whether such border controls are desirable and feasible.

Korthals Altes did not explicitly advocate the tests, which, if implemented, would constitute the first comprehensive border testing program for AIDS in Western Europe.

Spokesman Victor Holtus said that the Dutch have not yet contacted other governments on the proposed conference. Although Dutch authorities are allowed by law to administer AIDS tests to foreigners entering the Netherlands, officials there don't want "to go it alone," reported AP.

The Dutch Aliens' Law allows authorities to subject foreigners to a health test if there is reasonable suspicion they are suffering

from a contagious disease threatening public health here, but it has so far not been invoked to perform AIDS tests at the country's ports of entry.

The Netherlands' southern border with Belgium is virtually open, and controls at the Dutch-West German frontier are lax.

As of Dec. 31, 218 cases of AIDS had been reported in the Netherlands, including 126 deaths.

—Associated Press

White House Admits Firing Gay Steno

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A former White House stenographer has agreed to drop his discrimination lawsuit against the White House, claiming a "moral victory" after receiving an admission that his homosexuality was the reason his security clearance was revoked three years ago.

Killian Swift lost his job as a White House transcriber in 1984 because, he was told, he was a security risk. In 1985, he filed suit charging that the White House fired him solely because of his sexual orientation.

The admission that that was indeed the case came in a letter from Arnold Intrater, general counsel for the White House Office of Administration. "I have been advised that your sexual orientation was a factor in the decision to terminate your White House access," Intrater wrote, Feb. 25. "I can assure you that your White House access was not terminated based on any determination you were a security risk."

Intrater added that the White House has a policy of nondiscrimination for gays.

—Au Courant, Philadelphia

Big Apple Cop Doms Dump On 'Dancing Detective'

NEW YORK — Memo to anyone who wants to move to New York and become a police detective: don't take up jazz dancing as a hobby. You'll be out of step with Big Apple law enforcement standards.

A 25-year veteran of NYC's street snoops found out this ugly fact. Raymond O'Prey is suing two New York police officials for \$32 million. O'Prey contended that his superiors have tried to degrade and humiliate him because he moonlights as a jazz dancer and recruiter. His suit, filed in federal court by famed civil rights attorney William Kunstler, cited Police Commissioner Benjamin Wood and Lt. John D. McDonald, his former commander, for a disciplinary trial and a subsequent suspension of O'Prey.

O'Prey has worked as a jazz dancer and dance recruiter for the National Dance Institute's annual "Event of the Year," directed by internationally known dancer and choreographer Jacques D'Amboise. The lawsuit contends that since O'Prey started dancing, "he has been subjected to ridicule and harassment, covert and overt, from his superiors... who have taken the position that, as a training detective, he is not a fit role model for Police Department rookies because of his extracurricular dancing activities."

—The Associated Press

Maryland May Repeal Sodomy Law

ANNAPOLIS, MD — The Maryland state Senate voted 25-18, Mar. 12, to repeal that state's criminal penalty for sodomy. According to The Washington Blade, if the repeal bill passes the Senate in a final vote, it goes to the House of Delegates for consideration.

Debate on the measure was brief and no amendments to weaken it were introduced, said the Blade. But opponents did call for a roll call vote to force senators to reveal their stands publicly.

One senator asked during the debate why Maryland should "repeal one of the oldest laws of civilized man."

Sen. Julian Lapidus, sponsor of the bill, replied that sodomy laws originated in English common law and were written with church influence. Maryland, however, he said "is not a church-sponsored state." He added that in a democracy the "right to privacy is an absolute right" and "consenting adults should be able to have sexual relations with-

out state intervention."

Despite snickering from the 43 senators present, the bill passed its second reading. Lapidus is confident it will get final passage by the Senate soon.

The bill has been passed by the Senate three times in previous years. Each time, it was stopped by the House Judiciary Committee. This year, however, the former chair of that committee, who had opposed the bill, will not be present to stop it. He was defeated in last November's election. The committee is presently considering Lapidus' bill but has yet to vote on it.

If the bill passes and is signed into law by Gov. William D. Schafer, sections of the state code will be deleted which prohibit oral sex and "any other unnatural or perverted sexual practice."

Maryland is one of 24 U.S. states that still legally prohibits gay sex.

—The Washington Blade

Aussies Fear 3,000 AIDS Cases

SYDNEY — Australia could have 3,000 diagnosed cases of AIDS by the end of 1990, according to Australian researchers.

About 338 new AIDS cases are expected to be reported in Australia in 1987, an increase from 203 in 1986. The number of new cases would be around 980 in 1990, according to researchers in an article published in the Medical Journal of Australia.

This would bring the total number of AIDS cases recorded in Australia to 3,000 by the end of 1990.

The article also said that the spread of AIDS within Australia had been similar to that in other developed countries in terms of

the rate of increase, the number of cases and deaths, and the groups of individuals at high risk, the journal of the Australian Medical Association said.

—Agence France Presse

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Italian Army Gets Condoms

ROME — The Italian army will distribute free condoms to its 270,000 troops as part of an AIDS prevention campaign, medical officers said.

Army medical corps will also hand out leaflets on how to guard against AIDS, make random tests of conscripts and ask doctors to lecture soldiers on AIDS at all routine physicals.

Officers said the condoms will be handed out within the next few weeks.

The Health Ministry reported last month that 520 cases of acquired immune deficiency syndrome have been diagnosed in Italy and 260 of the patients have died. An estimated 100,000 people are carriers of the virus.

—United Press International

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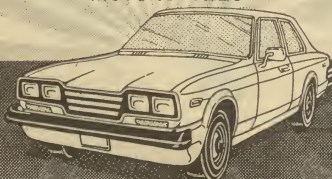
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Golden Girls Estelle Getty (l.) and Rue McClanahan accept their award from AGLA.
(Photo: E. Krieger)

Gay Oscars

AGLA Awards Chart Progress For Gay, Lesbian Entertainers

by Wendell Ricketts

The clot of fundamentalist hate-mongers that assembled outside the Wilshire-Ebell Theatre in Los Angeles March 21 had their work cut out for them. The elegant and splashy crowd gathered to observe the Sixth Annual Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Artists' Media Awards was in the mood for celebration, not damnation. As the sidewalk saviors droned on, the stylish hundreds casually ignored them. It was the most stunning demonstration of "drop-dead" Hollywood attitude I have ever witnessed.

Inside the theater, Greg Antonacci, executive producer of the Showtime comedy series, "Brothers," said, "We have to raise our voices louder than the people outside with the megaphones." The roar of agreement that followed sounded the evening's dominant chord: Such a voice was more than ready. Raising it was pure joy.

For the Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Artists (AGLA), the event was more than an opportunity to reward responsible portrayals of lesbians and gay men in film, television, and stage. It was a party. The "glitterati," cognoscenti, and paparazzi were there, but that wasn't all. "Have you ever seen so many handsome men in tuxedos?" breathed Vulcan Death Grip, my theater partner. I had to admit that I hadn't.

In a town in which entertainment is called an industry and the industry is known simply as "the Biz," AGLA proved that an awards show could be festive, touching, enlightening, funny, and politically correct—all without a smidgen of apparent effort. As the Los Angeles Times reviewer put it, AGLA could give a lesson to the Oscars.

Begun in 1979 as a support group for actors and actresses concerned about, and frequently victimized by the vicious

homophobia of Hollywood, AGLA has grown steadily in both scope and influence over the years. AGLA has consulted with major networks and studios on the development of movie and television scripts. Early last year it opened unprecedented discussions with the Screen Actors Guild on sexual orientation discrimination and AIDS-related issues within the industry. Its Media Watch Committee regularly monitors gay-themed material in television, film, and theater and maintains a dialogue with the creators of offending shows.

Los Angeles playwright and television scriptwriter Mike Lyons, who wrote this year's AGLA show, explains, "The brilliant and successful idea behind AGLA is that they praise the light instead of cursing the darkness. From the beginning, we went around thanking people for doing good work. They appreciated that and they continued doing good work. I believe that most people in the entertainment industry want to do their best. No one wants to be evil or cruel or snotty. When we encountered a show that did ugly stereotypes of gays and lesbians, we would offer them our services," he said. "And we have had a very positive response to that. Believe me, if all we did was send

'The brilliant idea behind AGLA is that they praise the light instead of cursing the darkness.'

—Mike Lyons,
scriptwriter

out nasty letters to people who portrayed gays and lesbians badly, they'd say, 'Who cares?' AGLA would not still be around," added Lyons.

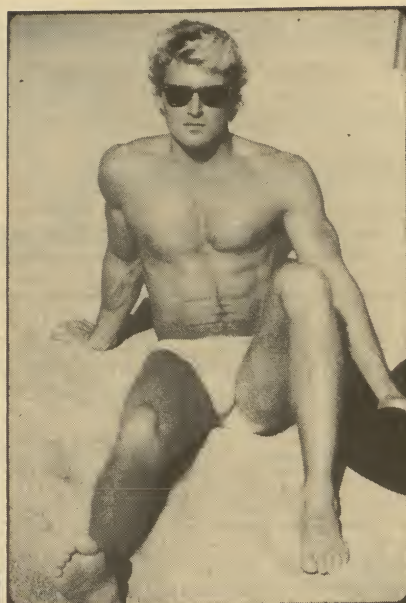
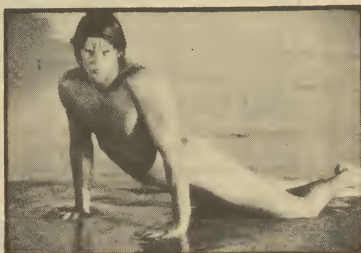
But there is evidence that cracks are developing in Hollywood's closet door. The presumption is proving false, for example, that stigma haunts any actor who accepts a lesbian or gay role. Patricia Charbonneau and Helen Shaver were unable to be in L.A. to accept the award for *Desert Hearts*, producer/director Donna Deitch explained, because each was elsewhere on location for her starring role in a forthcoming major motion picture. And Harry Hamlin, who played Michael Ontkean's lover in *Making Love*, now stars in NBC's *L.A. Law* and was recently voted "The Sexiest Man Alive" by People magazine. Their example is certainly not to be lost on others.

Network television's caution in producing gay- and lesbian-themed shows, moreover, sometimes works to its disadvantage. Lee Richmond, who accepted the award for *Agony*, a BBC situation comedy whose stock characters included a gay male couple, a black lesbian mother, and a transvestite, noted, "On BBC *Agony* ran for three years. When CBS bought the concept, they got rid of the lesbian and the gay men, and the transvestite. They turned it into the *Luci Arnaz Show*—and it lasted for six episodes."

Lyons' format for the AGLA show was a successful attempt to balance the evening's somber moments with moments of humor. During a clip from an award-winning episode of *L.A. Law* (in which a gay man is tried for the euthanasia-murder of his AIDS-stricken lover), one would have been hard-pressed to find a face untouched by tears.

(Continued on page 22)

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Get Out and Vote!

Part of the last minute campaign push for Harry Britt is the army of volunteers on the phones to get out the vote. The campaign has over 100 phone lines staffed. (Photo: S. Savage)

June Extravaganza To Raise \$1M for AIDS

by Allen White

Linda Ronstadt and Robin Williams are among the entertainers who will join with 14 restaurants for a million dollar AIDS fundraiser to be presented June 8 at Fort Mason. Tickets will begin at \$250 and over 1,000 people are expected to attend. Clark Wolf is the director for the event which is titled, "Aid & Comfort, The San Francisco Restaurant Benefit for People Fighting AIDS."

Money from the event will be divided between the Shanti Project, Open Hand, AIDS Hospice, the AIDS Emergency Fund and specified programs of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

The announcement of the event was made Monday afternoon by Mayor Dianne Feinstein who noted that "The unique quality of the Aid & Comfort event is its almost complete use of donated services. The event is

the means whereby creative genius can be transformed and multiplied into funds to combat the effect of AIDS in our community."

In making the announcement, the organizers said, "In a space designed by Eiko Ishioka, one of the world's foremost art directors, entertainers such as Linda Ronstadt, Cynthia Gregory and Robin Williams will perform throughout the evening. Tom

Luddy of Zoetrope/Coppola Productions, choreographer-director Michael Smuin and Bill Graham are producing the show."

The restaurants participating in the event are Campton Place, Chez Panisse, China Moon Cafe, Fleur de Lys, Fog City Diner, Fournou's Ovens at Stanford Court, Hayes Street Grill, The Mandarin, Pierre at Meridien, Rosalie's, Square One, Stars, and Zuni Cafe.

The concept for the Aid & Comfort dinner was that of Vince Calcagno, owner of the Zuni Cafe. "Five of my best friends died," he said, "and I knew I had to do something."

It was also announced that the group is planning to supplement the ticket receipts by selling artwork and menus and by soliciting donations.

Tickets are available at 33 Hayes Street, Suite 222, San Francisco, 94102. Further details regarding the event may be obtained by phoning 861-3663. ●

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NAN hires Director Of Minority Affairs

The National AIDS Network (NAN), the national information and resource center for AIDS education and service providers, has hired the former executive director of the National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays (NCBLG) Gil Gerald as the director of minority affairs.

Hiring a director of minority affairs will enable NAN to move forward with its commitment to provide technical assistance to local AIDS education and service providers in their efforts to stop the spread of the AIDS virus in all segments of society, and in their efforts to improve services to blacks, Hispanics, and other people of color who have contracted AIDS or AIDS-related complex (ARC).

Recent federal reports highlight the need for more educational efforts and services directed at black and Hispanic communities because they have been disproportionately affected by the AIDS crisis. Blacks, who make up 12 percent of the U.S. population, comprise 25 percent of all cases of AIDS. Similarly, Hispanics, who make up 6 percent of the U.S. population, comprise 14 percent of all cases of AIDS.

Paul Kawata, executive director of NAN, said of his decision to hire Gerald, "we are very ex-

cited to have him on board because he has proven to be a very effective advocate for people of color."

While he was the executive director of NCBLG, Gil Gerald was a highly vocal advocate for improving AIDS services to black and brown communities. In July of this year, under Gerald's direction, NCBLG sponsored a highly successful National Conference on AIDS in the Black Community at D.C.'s Washington Convention Center.

NAN currently is a coalition of over 200 AIDS education and service providers. NAN assists these organizations with their program development and administration needs through technical assistance, conferences and publications. For more information write to the National AIDS Network, 1012, 14th Street, N.W., Suite 601, Washington, D.C. 20005. ●

AB-87

(Continued from page 4)

considered more militant than Mobilization, agreed with McBride. Griffith said it was his understanding that Agnos agreed to take out the offending language alluding to quarantine. "But there are other problems," he said.

The other problem he had in mind was identical with Boneberg's dismay over the omission of gays and lesbians from the specific groups to be mandated positions on the new AIDS Commission. But, Griffith added, "It does say that the commission should be sensitive to sexual orientation."

Griffith said he intended to support AB-87, and he expects all other AIDS activist groups will as well. "As long as it doesn't imply that a quarantine has any role in the management of AIDS," he said.

Both Michael Housh and Larry Bush in Agnos' office said that the assemblyman was working with Koop on new language that the surgeon general would be willing to support and which would also meet the concerns raised by local AIDS activists. ●



Enjoying the sunshine at the Gay Softball opener.

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

Play Ball

GSL Opens 10th Season

by Allen White

Almost 1,000 people gathered at Lang Field last Sunday afternoon for the opening day of the 10th season of the Gay Softball League. The SuperStar Video Beaches won the first game of the year against Amelias, 6-2. The Endup team scored an upset in the second game beating the Pendulum Pirates 5-4.

As they begin their tenth year, Rick Brattin, GSL commissioner, commented, "We're not only the oldest gay softball organization in the nation, we're also the largest with 19 teams and over 400 athletes."

The festive day began under the warm sun with the women of the SuperStar Video team playing against Amelias. The two teams generated an enthusiasm from the crowd which prevailed for the remainder of the day.

Cheryl Rosenthal, a coach of the SuperStar Video team, said "It looks like a very promising season. It's going to be tough to win and I think the teams are evenly matched."

Rosenthal, like all the other players, has her eye on the Gay Softball World Series in September. This year, the many activities will be presented here in San Francisco. Teams from all

across the country and Canada will converge for the opening game at Moscone Field on Sept. 1. This will be followed with six days of events culminating with the banquet for over 1,000 persons at the Giftcenter on Sept. 6.

Harry Britt drew sustained applause when he was introduced at last Sunday's game. The crowd roared their approval when he announced that the flag for the GSL World Series will have flown over the United States Capitol.

Britt noted that as a member of the United States Congress he can request that a flag that flies over the capitol be designated for use as he chooses. The symbolism that becomes reality when a gay congressman requests a flag of the United States for the Gay Softball League World Series was immediately recognized by the crowd.

The opening day ceremonies were highlighted by the introduction of the teams of San Francis-

co's Gay Softball League. Cafe Sn. Marcos has both a women's and a men's team. The Hunks team is now known as the Seasons. The Phone Booth was recognized as the oldest sponsor in the league, having been a participant for nine of the league's ten years.

The Gay Freedom Day Marching Band provided the music for Deena Jones to sing the national anthem. Gilbert Baker had helped organize the many members of the courts of San Francisco to carry the huge rainbow flag to the field. Deena Jones and Tony Trevizo produced the opening day program.

A highlight of this year's opening day was the announcers. A delightful, yet firm, Donna Jane Fonda was coupled for the first game with Tom Vindeed. Ms. Fonda (that's what she calls herself) kept the action going and was accurate in her awareness of the many players.

Vindeed said, "We were planning on having our own 'two tons of fun' for the second game. Scheduling conflicts got in the way of hitting a home run for fun when my partner had to cancel. We'll get him next year," he said. The missing "ton" was B.A.R. associate editor Will Snyder.

Sandwiched between the two opening day games was a celebrity game with players from the team sponsors and managers. The tie game was marked by an extraordinary right field catch by Amelia's owner Rikki Streicher.

Gay Run to Raise Funds for AIDS Services

The San Francisco FrontRunners would like to invite you to participate in GAY RUN '87. For the first time ever, the S.F. FrontRunners will be sponsoring a 30-day running program, set up to benefit various AIDS agencies.

Similar in nature to the Different Spokes AIDS Bike-A-Thon, the FrontRunners' GAY RUN program will collect pledges for every mile a participant runs during the month of June, with money going to the AIDS agency of the runner's choice. The mileage is recorded in an official Runner's Log supplied by the S.F. FrontRunners. Total mileage for the month equates to an established amount of money based on the pledges per mile each runner has secured.

On July 12, the FrontRunners will hold their 8th Annual GAY RUN (5K & 10K). Starting time is at 9 a.m. They will also sponsor a celebration in Golden Gate

Park (at Lindley Meadow) following the runs. Showing our appreciation for the efforts of those runners who participated in the 30-day running program.

Registration packages are now available, by sending a check or money order for \$5, made payable to GAY RUN '87 to: S.F. FrontRunners, 1550 California St., Suite 6L200, San Francisco, CA 94109.

Get Into Shape For Bike-A-Thon

To help riders get into shape, Different Spokes will offer 25-mile preview/training rides starting Saturday, April 4. Rides leave McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park (Fell and Stanyan Streets) at 10 a.m. every Saturday and Sunday from April 4 to May 3.

Registration Packets for the 1987 AIDS Bike-A-Thon sched-

uled for Saturday, May 9, may be picked up at Headlines, All American Boy, from any of the beneficiaries or by calling (415) 771-0677. This year riders have the opportunity to choose from three routes — a 25-mile in-city jaunt, 60 miles in the city and Marin County, or the 100-mile challenge. Already over 100 riders have registered.

Beneficiaries of the event are: AIDS Emergency Fund, AIDS Health Project, AIDS Hospice/Coming Home Hospice, AIDS Project of the East Bay, 18th Street Services, ELLIPSE, Peninsula AIDS Services, The Godfather Service Fund, Marin AIDS Support Network, Open Hand, S.F. AIDS Foundation and The Shanti Project. One hundred percent of all monies raised will go directly to the beneficiary programs selected by the participating cyclists.

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\$1 Billion Budget Coming for AIDS

Majority Whip: Raise Taxes If Needed; But Feds Stall Key Parts of Program

by Brian Jones

LOS ANGELES—Majority Whip Tony Coelho, third-ranking member of the U.S. House of Representatives, said last week that Congress "should have the guts to raise taxes if necessary to pay for a Manhattan Project to end AIDS." Coelho, speaking to a gay health conference, said Congress "Must spend whatever it takes."

The remarks of the Fresno Democrat echoed a statement earlier in the week from the Senate Minority Leader, Sen. Robert Dole of Kansas. Dole, who is running for president, told a press conference that Congress should spend "\$100 million or \$1 billion—whatever it takes to stop AIDS."

How much will it take? Two billion dollars now, said the National Lesbian and Gay Health Conference, meeting last week in Los Angeles.

It appears likely that next year's federal AIDS budget will reach \$1 billion.

That would more than double this year's record \$416 million—although much of the money, especially for preventive education, is not being spent by the Reagan administration.

Coelho said AIDS is advancing toward the top of the federal agenda at last—after the deaths of 20,000 Americans.

"We're beginning a presiden-

tial election here and AIDS will be a major issue for all the candidates and both the parties," said Coelho. "We have already felt the tremors but by 1988 this issue will set records on the political Richter scale."

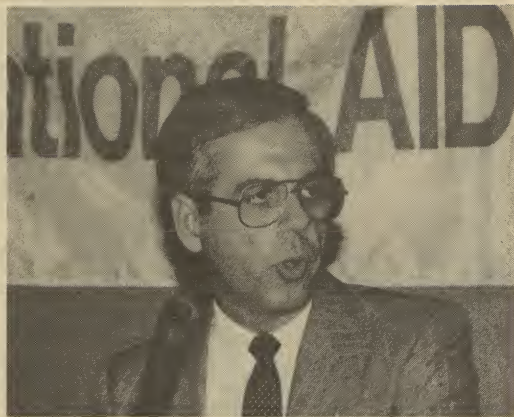
"By the time Reagan leaves office it is expected that more American lives will be lost to AIDS than all those who died in Vietnam," Coelho said. Fifty-four thousand Americans died in Vietnam. "History will remember Ronald Reagan for his Vietnam—his neglect of the AIDS epidemic."

But the majority whip said AIDS activists must not wait for a new national administration in 1988 to press their program.

"We can't wait until 1988. We can't afford to. We must put pressure on the Reagan administration now," Coelho said.

PANICKED POLITICIANS

Coelho assists the Speaker and the Majority Leader in defining the Democrats' legislative program, and pushing it through the Democratic-dominated House. Thus he is in a key role to advance the AIDS issue to the top of the Congressional agenda.



Rep. Tony Coelho is calling for a \$1 billion federal budget on AIDS. (B.A.R. Photo)

The growing awareness of AIDS on Capitol Hill is full of opportunity and danger, Coelho said.

The opportunity: With the national attention now concentrating on AIDS, the federal government will be forced to quit ignoring the epidemic. The danger: Some of the responses to the epidemic threaten civil rights.

There is a bill in the House to require mandatory AIDS testing annually for every American. The bill by Rep. Dan Burton (R-Indiana) would not only promote the isolation of infected people—it would also soak up the entire AIDS budget, opponents say.

"Several of these bills would postpone progress," Coelho said. "There is one to put people who have AIDS in jail if they have sex or share IV drug needles. Some are advancing mandatory testing and there is discussion of quarantine."

NEWS ANALYSIS

"But if civil rights are threatened, the only recourse is that this epidemic will be driven underground," Coelho said.

"I am worried," said Coelho. "Bob Dole said he would spend whatever it takes—but for what? Is he going to spend it on mandatory testing and isolating people with AIDS?"

"Now Bob Dole may agree with us in private," Coelho said. "But we all know who controls the Republican Party today—the right wing."

"These right-wingers are trying to frighten the American public and that in turn is frightening their politicians," said the majority whip. "There is nothing more dangerous than a group of panicked politicians. That is what we will have to deal with in the coming year."

The various elements of the federal response to the epidemic are long-term programs which, at best, show gradual progress. Biological research and campaigns to alter human behavior are long-term processes.

With the media breathing hotly down the necks of the feds, though, the heat is on to do something big, quickly. Molecular biology and mass behavior change are big—but not quick. Mandatory testing would be big and quick.

MORE ON SOAP

In the meantime the federal government is too confused to make even modest progress on key elements of its anti-AIDS program. In Congress last week, a federal health official admitted that some preventive education programs had been stalled for two years.

U.S. Asst. Health Secretary Robert Windom said that some AIDS education projects as far back as 1985 are still in the "planning stage." Among them:

- A "clearinghouse" of information run by federal, state, local and private organizations.
- Education for college campuses.

(Continued on page 22)

NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT

Claims against
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Based on Sexual
Orientation

TO ALL PERSONS WHO BELIEVE THAT PACIFIC TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY OR PACIFIC BELL HAS DISCRIMINATED AGAINST THEM IN EMPLOYMENT, BASED ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION:

On March 6, 1987 the Superior Court of the State of California for the City and County of San Francisco, approved a settlement, which settled the employment discrimination claims alleged in the class action lawsuit entitled *Gay Law Students Association, et al. v. Pacific Bell, et al.*, San Francisco Superior Court No. 691-750.

The suit was on behalf of all persons who have been discriminated against in employment by Pacific based upon their homosexuality, at any time during the period from January 1, 1970 to April 1, 1986. You are a class member in the suit, and your rights are affected by the settlement, if you are a gay man or lesbian, and you either (a) applied for employment with Pacific and were rejected due to your homosexuality during the above period, (b) were employed by Pacific at any time during that period and were terminated, denied promotion, or otherwise harassed or

discriminated against due to your homosexuality during that period, or (c) intend to apply in the future for employment with Pacific, and fear that you will suffer discrimination due to your homosexuality;

and you either (i) resided in California as of February 7, 1986, or (ii) resided elsewhere but your name was provided to Pacific by plaintiffs' counsel. You are not a class member if you withdrew from this action by sending a letter to the Clerk of the San Francisco Superior Court, on or before April 1, 1986.

PLEASE NOTE: IF YOU ARE A CLASS MEMBER, YOU MUST FILE ANY DAMAGE CLAIM BY AUGUST 28, 1987, AS DESCRIBED BELOW, OR YOUR CLAIM MAY BE BARRED.

Class members belonging to category (a) or (b) of the previous paragraph may have claims for damages under this settlement. Damage claims based upon discrimination which occurred before January 1, 1970 or after April 1, 1986, are not covered by this settlement.

PRINCIPAL TERMS OF THE SETTLEMENT

The specific terms of the settlement are contained in the Stipulation of Settlement, a document signed by Pacific and the plaintiffs in this case, and approved by the Court. The Stipulation of Settlement may be obtained by calling or writing the arbitrator, the Honorable Robert Bostick, Judge of the Superior Court (RET), Ordway Building, One Kaiser Plaza, Suite 1410, Oakland, CA

94612, (415) 465-9001. The terms and conditions of the settlement are summarized in this Notice. Any other pleadings and other records in the litigation are available for your inspection or copying at the following location, during regular business hours:

Clerk of the Superior Court of the State of California City and County of San Francisco Room 317 City Hall 400 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102

(a) Non-monetary Relief. The approved settlement provides that:

(i) Pacific shall not discriminate in employment or in any term or condition of employment against any person on the basis of sexual preference or sexual orientation and shall make such policy widely known. An internal complaint procedure will be available to handle complaints of discrimination on the basis of sexual preference or sexual orientation.

(ii) Pacific shall be enjoined from discriminating on the basis of sexual preference or sexual orientation.

(b) Monetary Relief. Under the approved settlement, a fund of \$3,000,000.00 will be created by Pacific ("the Class Claim Fund") with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as escrow holder. The Class Claim Fund will be used to compensate those who were damaged by Pacific's alleged policy of discrimination on the basis of sexual preference or sexual ori-

entation. If you fit within the description of class members eligible to make a claim for damages which appears earlier in this notice, you may file a claim by sending a letter stating your intent to make such a claim to:

The Honorable Robert L. Bostick Judge of the Superior Court (RET) Ordway Building One Kaiser Plaza, Suite 1410 Oakland, CA 94621

In response to your letter you will receive a form which you must fill out and submit to The Honorable Robert L. Bostick, who is the arbitrator who will consider and decide your claim. YOU MUST FILE YOUR CLAIM ON THE CLAIM FORM PROVIDED BY THE ARBITRATOR NAMED ABOVE, NOT LATER THAN AUGUST 28, 1987. Any filing you make will be protected by certain provisions intended to protect the confidentiality of your claim and to protect you from any adverse action by Pacific as a result of your claim. Your claim will be reviewed by the arbitrator, under agreed procedures for handling disputed claims. Most claims will be decided based upon written submissions alone. In some cases the arbitrator may require an interview with you or an officer, agent or employee of Pacific. In no case will there be any oral hearings.

Although the arbitration procedures provided by the settlement are designed to minimize the need for attorneys, and in most cases an attorney should not be necessary, you have the right to the

assistance of an attorney of your choice in presenting your claim according to the procedures provided by the Stipulation of Settlement. Pacific has agreed to pay the fees and costs of attorneys for claimants who receive money from the Class Claim Fund. The amount of their fees and costs are limited as provided in paragraph 6.5 of the Arbitration Procedures, which is Exhibit C to the Stipulation of Settlement.

The arbitrator may compensate claimants for damages for discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, including emotional distress damages, but not including punitive damages. Any amount of the Class Claim Fund which is not paid to claimants will be distributed to non-profit organizations dedicated to gay and/or lesbian health services, counseling, social services or the protection of individual legal rights, or organizations which provide public education concerning matters particularly affecting the gay and/or lesbian community.

If you have any questions, you may contact the attorneys presently representing plaintiffs:

Heller, Ehrman, White & McAuliffe, c/o Kevin James or Michael Dickstein 333 Bush Street San Francisco, California 94104 Telephone: (415) 772-6000;

or: National Gay Rights Advocates, c/o Leonard Graff 540 Castro Street San Francisco, California 94114 Telephone: (415) 863-3624.

RODEO!



More than 3,000 cowpokes were corralled at the Third Gay Rodeo over the weekend in Los Angeles. Top l., urbane cowboy Mack Lyon; bottom l., Miss Thing rides sidesaddle; top r., steer wrestler is on horns of a dilemma; middle, gambling in the big tent; and bottom r., spectators spur on the contestants.

(B.A.R. Photos/Brian Jones)

Should you take the AIDS Antibody Test?

The AIDS Antibody Test shows if you have been infected with the virus that can cause AIDS.

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The San Francisco Department of Public Health offers AIDS Antibody Testing which

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To find out more about the test, call the S.F. AIDS Foundation HOTLINE:

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To make an appointment at an Alternative Test Site for education or testing, call:
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Then decide.**

Funding for this message provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

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 24th & Castro

DEATHS

James M. Beemel

6/7/48 - 3/18/87

James M. Beemel died peacefully March 18 after a year-long illness with pneumocystis.



A native San Franciscan, James truly loved this city. He will always be remembered for his incredible blue eyes, his sense of humor, warmth and at times his witty sarcasm. Perhaps the most important memory

we will have of James was the courage and the humor with which he faced his illness.

His last year with us was perhaps the most serene year of his life — never fearing death nor denying it.

James is survived by his companion of ten years, Omar Hampton, his parents Elizabeth and Wilfred Beemel, brother Wayne, sister Deborah Van Winkle, nephew Christopher and niece Samantha, in-laws Tom and Gloria, Herb Donaldson, Gerald Abbott, a host of loving friends, and Siva.

James was co-owner of Earthevents.

Many thanks to David and Carol of Shanti, members of his support group and staff members at Kaiser, for their loving care.

A memorial service will be held April 5 at 4 p.m. at the Swedenborgian Church, 2107 Lyon St. Memorial donations to Shanti Project, 525 Howard St., SF 94105.

Enjoy your new journey, my dear friend, and until we sip from the cup of eternity together, love always.

• Omar

Roy Esquibao

For eight joyful years you enriched so many lives with your smile and your decency. You had friends in every color of the rainbow. You gave so generously of yourself and your resources and never asked for anything in return. In your martyrdom of the past few weeks you remained courageous and handsome, surrounded by your loving sisters, brothers, aunt, roommate, and mother. You richly deserved more than 32 years among us. When our tears dry up there will remain the countless moments of joy that you sowed from your native New Mexico to the Bay Area. The only thing deeper than our sorrow is our love for you.

Your roommate, Armand

Jonathan C. Long

12/24/48 - 3/30/87

After courageously battling a 19-month bout with AIDS, Jonathan passed on March 30.



During his years in San Francisco he was a volunteer for the AIDS Foundation Food Bank. He was also a volunteer board member for the Technical Advisory Committee for Adult Services to the San Francisco

Dept. of Social Services. Jonathan is survived by a mother and sister in South Carolina. His friends would like to thank the staff and volunteers of Coming Home Hospice, AIDS Foundation, Shanti, and the AIDS Emergency Fund.

As per Jonathan's request, friends should celebrate his transition in their own personal manner. For more information please contact Tom Simpson funeral counselor at 626-3340.

James F. Frooks

Sept. 7, 1916 - Mar. 20, 1987

Jim Frooks, a long-time resident of San Francisco and an early member and religious chairman of S.I.R., died March 20 of a heart attack following several years of illness. Jim helped the early gay movement through his hosting of many conversation groups. In later years he worked at the Church of the Advent and The Parsonage on Castro Street.

A funeral mass was said March 23 at his parish church and was well-attended by many friends. In his last will, he wrote, "When I enter and leave Advent for the last time, I'd like the 'full and whole treatment' — bells and smells, lots of singing and organ and calliope! Sing no sad songs for me!" He will be remembered for being a pioneer in the gay civil rights and liberties movement.

Richard C. Martin

3/5/51 - 3/23/87

Richard left this life very peacefully at 1:13 a.m. on March 23. With him were his closest friends. He had been diagnosed with Kaposi's sarcoma in December, 1986. He was most dignified throughout his illness. He was never alone, being cared for constantly by his close friends and Hospice.



Richard came to San Francisco seven years ago from Connecticut. He owned his own hair-cutting salon in Connecticut and continued cutting hair in San Francisco ... Best damn hair-cutter ever.

He was so happy here, having everything anyone could possibly want.

To know Richard was to know what Magic feels like, and that feeling still persists. To see Richard riding up the coast to Westport on his Harley was the perfect image.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, April 4, at 4 p.m. at the Church of the Advent, 261 Fell Street. Contributions may be made in his memory to Hospice of San Francisco or to the Diabetes Clinic at U.C. Med. Center, S.F.

Live long, ride hard, we'll be seeing you, Mint!

Eunice B. Schneider

Ms. Eunice B. Schneider passed on March 23 at the age of 66 after a long and courageous fight with cancer.

Mother always went out of her way to help others whenever it was in her power to do so. She was a great mother and was a true American woman who worked hard all of her life for her family and for the betterment of man. She was deeply loved by everyone who came in contact with her and will be truly missed.

Ashes will be scattered at sea in a private ceremony on April 4. For those who wish to remember mother, the family prefers that a donation be made in her name to a charity of one's choice.

David Pasko

David Pasko — film producer and writer, and gay community activist — died of AIDS at Kaiser Hospital, San Francisco, March 27. He was 42.



Pasko moved to San Francisco in the mid-'70s. He designed the sets for *Forbidden Letters*, a 1976 erotic film by Arthur J. Bressan, Jr.

Anita Bryant's defeat of the Dade County gay-rights ordinance in June, 1977 politicized Pasko. He joined Harvey Milk's campaign for supervisor that year.

He co-produced and distributed Bressan's *Gay USA*, a 1977 documentary about Gay Freedom Day marches in San Francisco and other cities.

After Milk's assassination in 1978, Pasko served on the board of directors of the Harvey Milk Archives and edited its newsletter.

In 1985, Pasko gave financial backing to Bressan's *Buddies*, the first dramatic movie about AIDS. He also created the film's title sequence, a computerized list of fictional people killed by the disease.

Pasko wrote several screenplays. The last one, *Sherlock Holmes and the Scourge of God*, is now being considered for production.

From time to time, Pasko supported himself by working at the Moby Dick bar.

Survivors include his devoted friend, Rand Salwasser of San Francisco; and his family in Niagara Falls, New York: parents Paul and Lorraine Pasko, brother Jim, and a niece.

David Pasko is also fondly remembered by his friends in the international cinema community: British producer Richard Gordon, New York film critic Elliott Stein, actor Paul Eden, and filmmaker Arthur Bressan; and by many friends in San Francisco.

His ashes will be buried in a family plot in Niagara Falls, New York. Friends will hold a private memorial gathering in San Francisco.

Pasko asked that memorial contributions be sent to AIDS charities.

Calu Lester

Calu Lester, Ph.D., passed from this life on Tuesday, March 24, at San Francisco General Hospital. He died peacefully after a brief bout with cryptococcal meningitis.



Dr. Lester was the founder and director of the Kapuna West Inner City Child/Family AIDS Network (KWIC-FAN), an AIDS education and outreach program of black professionals and volunteers, both

gay and straight, targeting the underserved, hard-to-reach black population.

Prior to KWIC-FAN he was a Senior Residence Advocate for Shanti and he also worked for UCSF AIDS Health Project. He was a founding member of the Third World AIDS Advisory Task Force. He was an active member of Black and White Men Together, San Francisco and a consultant to the BWMT AIDS Task Force.

Calu was a compassionate, caring and giving person who was not afraid to speak out against the injustice and unfair treatment of people of color.

Calu is survived by his son Damon, his lover Stephen Matchett, his father, Louis L. Lester, brothers, Gary and Louis Jr., of Los Angeles, CA, his brothers Tony and Dean of Pauls Valley, OK.

We will miss you, Calu. Celebration of Dr. Lester's life will be held at Sacred Heart Church, Fell & Fillmore Streets, on Saturday, April 4, at 7 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, tax deductible donations can be made to KWIC-FAN, c/o the Western Institute for Social Research, WISIR, 3220 Sacramento St., Berkeley, CA.

Johannes Gottfried Mueller

A memorial mass will be said for Johannes Gottfried Mueller, who died Nov. 25, 1986, on Wednesday, April 8, at 6 p.m. at Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St. (near Castro). For information call 566-9838.

Michael Dean Watson

On March 29, at the age of 29, Michael Dean Watson passed into the light. He was loved.

A former resident of Santa Cruz, CA, Michael Dean spent his last months in the loving care of Ron and the Kansas, Missouri AIDS Hospice, the Good Samaritan House.

We, his friends, will spread his ashes over the waters of Santa Cruz, Sunday, April 5.

Donations in his name may be sent to the Good Samaritan House, 3109 Campbell St., Kansas City, MO 64109.

Good-Bye, My Love.

Robert L. (Scotty) Scott

Having been a generous and frequent contributor to the organizations devoted to helping those stricken with the disease, Scotty succumbed to AIDS March 27 after a very long, painful and valiant fight. The incredible strength he exhibited during his struggle was an inspiration to all those who were around him during his illness. Present at his crossing were his good friends Richard "Giupetto" Apadaca, Ron Umeli and Smitty.



Scotty was always willing to help his friends and was especially devoted to his leather brothers. His gifts from his business, The Jacket Shop, were present at many fundraisers, auctions and other events in the community. He strongly advocated the coming together of the brothers and sisters for the benefit of each other and thereby the entire community.

Scotty is survived by a large family that gave its wholehearted support to him in his struggle and by his myriad friends all over the country. His sense of fun will leave a void with many people, and he will be remembered with loving fondness for the many humorous adventures he brought to himself through his naive and innocent nature. May his crossing bring him to the light he sought with such fervor.

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS



Ken Yeager (l.), chair of the Santa Clara County AIDS Task Force, talks with Prof. Wiggys Sivertsen, of San Jose State University. (Photo: G. Koskovich)

Santa Clara Sups. Adopt AIDS Report

Board Accepts All Recommendations To Meet Expanded Caseload, Cost by 1991

by Gerard Koskovich

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously Mar. 17 to approve the final report of its year-old Community AIDS Task Force. The report projects 3,400 AIDS cases and AIDS-related medical expenses of at least \$144 million in the county by the end of this decade.

"The Board is sincerely concerned and has compassion for people with AIDS; they realize how important it is to respond effectively to this disease," said Ken Yeager, chair of the AIDS Task Force and treasurer of BAYMEC, the San Jose-based gay and lesbian political action committee.

The Task Force report contains 38 proposals for addressing the AIDS epidemic in Santa Clara County. According to Yeager, the supervisors "acted directly on the recommendations within their power; the ones they referred to county department heads went with a request for adoption."

Responding to the Task Force recommendations, the board directed the county executive to draft an AIDS antidiscrimination ordinance for future consideration. It likewise voted to forbid such discrimination in health and social service agencies that it contracts for services.

As requested in the report, the supervisors asked the county executive to prepare a report within 90 days on housing needs for people with AIDS and ARC, including projections through 1991.

The board also agreed to extend the Task Force for an additional year and to hold joint public hearings with the Task Force on the impact of AIDS in Santa Clara County. Specific plans for the hearings remain to be determined, Yeager said.

Leading the list of proposals referred to department heads is a request for "development of a specialized AIDS care unit and clinic, and recruitment of a specially trained staff" at the county-run Santa Clara Valley Medical Center.

The Task Force report also calls for the county to provide "skilled nursing facilities, home health care services, and hospice services." While San Mateo County recently opened an AIDS hospice, Santa Clara County currently provides no service of this sort.

No members of the public stepped forward to oppose the Task Force recommendations at the board's Mar. 17 meeting, according to Yeager. "There wasn't any controversy," he said. "We had so many experts on the Task Force, it would have been difficult for any reasonable person to refute our findings."

Santa Clara County Sheriff Robert Winter has, however, made remarks in the press sharply critical of one Task Force recommendation calling for the distribution of condoms to county jail inmates.

"I feel our efforts should be concentrated on avoiding this [sexual] behavior" in the jails, Winter told the San Jose Mercury News. "I don't consider that doing anything to encourage it is appropriate in this setting."

Yeager responded to the Bay Area Reporter that the Task Force "will continue to plead its case strongly" and may ask the board to intervene. "They are ultimately responsible for the county jail," he said.

The Task Force report outlines AIDS and ARC case statistics and medical need estimates for Santa Clara County annually through 1991. "These are the first systematic projections for Santa Clara County," Yeager said, "but the mainstream press has given them virtually no coverage."

Among the estimates:

- The county will have a total of nearly 3,400 reported cases of AIDS by 1991, compared to a total of 183 as of this January.

- Over 22,000 county residents will develop ARC (AIDS related complex) by 1991.

- Annual medical expenses, including hospital and out-patient care, for AIDS and ARC patients in Santa Clara County could range from \$144 million to \$432 million a year by the end of the decade.

Appointed in February 1986, the nine-member Task Force includes AIDS organizers, lesbian and gay activists, and health professionals. According to Yeager, members were "waylaid by the Prop. 64 campaign" until the end of November 1986, at which time they began concentrated work on the AIDS report.

Copies of the Santa Clara County AIDS Community Task Force Final Report are available from BAYMEC, P.O. Box 90070, San Jose, CA 95109.

Nez Pas

Looking for a Bargain

CURRENCY FOR COHORTS

(A Helping Nose)

Last Saturday, friends, associates, and those just "looking for a bargain" gathered on the patio of Paradise to participate in an auction to raise emergency funds for two of our own—George and B.J.

Under the "direction" of Ed Paulson and Little Mother, the proceedings finally began at 3:30, and lasted until 6 p.m. Some of the items on the block brought forth spirited bidding, and rounds of applause for the "winners." Those treasures left unsold were held over for the flea market the following Sunday.

One of the most interesting items up for bid was a metal sphere with spikes protruding all around, attached to a chain. (I'll

be damned if I can remember the name of that thing!) The bidding was quite lively, but in the end David and Robert were the proud possessors. They were last seen looking lovingly into each other's eyes, with the metal sphere swinging between them!

For such short notice, the afternoon's events proved quite successful. A grand total of \$1,212.50 was raised for two guys who are temporarily between engagements, if you will. George and B.J. asked me to express their most sincere thanks and appreciation to all who participated. They are extremely appreciative.

(It's still a puzzlement to me why someone donated a box of toco shells. Hopefully it sold at the flea market!)

(Continued on next page)

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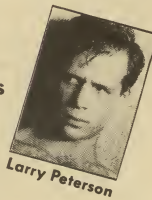
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AGLA

(Continued from page 14)

But a short time later the audience dried its eyes and howled with laughter at a snippet of an episode from *Golden Girls*. Lyons' script included its quantum of daring, too. One comedy sketch involved a pair of closeted starlets who meet unexpectedly on stage: "You look fabulous, darling. Really. Didn't you used to wear your hair a lot shorter?"

And Lyons opened the evening with a mock Best Actress competition, featuring Bea Arthur, Delta Burke, Estelle Getty, and Adrienne Barbeau. The winner, however, was a fifth nominee, Lainie Peru. After the thunderous applause it had given to each of the actresses, the crowd was silent for an instant as the lights went up on Lainie. Then recognition sank in: Yes, that boozy, statuesque figure in the turquoise boa was a drag queen.

Lyons may get flack for including a drag queen in a show all about "correct" portrayals of lesbians and gay men, but Lainie Peru's appearance was a gesture of humanity. Neither Lainie nor Lyons would have us take ourselves too, too seriously.

For an organization whose reputation for fine work and wise counsel is so respectably earned, I have but one demur. The television and motion picture industries occupy an astonishingly reflexive world. The only reality in Hollywood is the one Hollywood itself manufactures and promotes. The question of the authenticity of gay and lesbian characters, can meaningfully be asked only in the context of the authenticity of other characterizations. How "real," for example, are depictions of blacks, Asians, Hispanics, women, married couples, families, the workplace? If the answer is "not very," should we be pleased to see gay and lesbian images held up to the same standard?

Writer Mike Lyons is somewhat impatient with the question. He—and AGLA—are convinced that complaining about what isn't there will never be as effective as rewarding what is. Their position is not without merit. "We forget," he explains, "those of us who are adults who have had to forge our own sensibilities, the power that is inherent in the simple existence of the information that there are gays and lesbians in the world and that they are OK. To people dying of loneliness, this is a gift from God."

"I'm doing this for the 13-year-old boy who I used to be, who I know is still out there and who is dying to get some positive information. And I'm convinced that AGLA really helps," says Lyons.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

The winners are . . .

Television: *The AIDS Show—Artists Involved with Death and Survival* (the PBS special); *Agony: As Is* (Showtime); *Brothers*; Phil Donahue; *An Early Frost* (NBC movie); the "Isn't It Romantic" episode of *Golden Girls*; the "Scapegoats," "Rallying Cry," and "Undercurrents" episodes of *Hotel*; the "Venus Butterfly" and "Fry Me to the Moon" episodes of *L.A. Law*; the "Friends and Lovers" episode of *Trapper John, M.D.*; the "Homophobia" segment of *20/20*; *When the Bough Breaks* (NBC movie).

Film: *Desert Hearts* (Samuel Goldwyn Co.); *Dona Herlinda and Her Son* (Cinevista); *My Beautiful Laundrette* (Orion Classics); *November Moon* (Ottokar Runze); *Parting Glances* (Cinecom International Films).

Stage: *AIDSUS* (Carnegie Artists/Artists Confronting AIDS); *8x10 Glossy* (Celebration Theatre/Sarah Dreher); *The Normal Heart* (Gene LaPietra/Larry Kramer); *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe* (Lily Tomlin/Jane Wagner).

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

AIDS Hospice Opens In Redwood City

One of the country's first skilled nursing facilities for people with AIDS plans to open on April 8 at 631 Woodside Road in Redwood City, according to ELLIPSE, Peninsula AIDS Services, a local nonprofit organization.

The 16-bed skilled nursing facility will aim at serving AIDS patients—those not needing the intensive and costly care of a hospital, but still needing more attention than their home situation can provide. Registered nurses will be on duty at all times.

The former nursing home has been renovated and will undergo final inspection on April 3.

Staff will number 28, with Dennis McShane, M.D., as medical director, and Marcy Fraser, R.N., as director of nursing services.

"There have been many health-care professionals of top caliber applying for employment at the ELLIPSE Care Center," according to Mark Tornga, project developer, "and the entire project represents great cooperation by government, private industry, and volunteers, all to keep costs down and patient care up."

Members of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors will attend opening festivities at the facility on April 6-7.

In order to better serve the residents of south county, the San Mateo Department of Health Services is opening an office of the San Mateo County AIDS Project in Redwood City which will be located within the offices of ELLIPSE: Peninsula AIDS Services, 631 Woodside Road. The AIDS Project staff will be available each Wednesday from 1 p.m. until 6 p.m.

Ed Hilton, R.N., C., AIDS project coordinator states that it is his hope that this more convenient location will be helpful to those who have concerns about AIDS, its transmission, and/or questions about risk reduction activities. This location will also provide on-site coordination for the patients at the ELLIPSE Care Center.

It is expected that over the coming months, other AIDS Project offices will be opened in north county and the coastal areas to better serve the needs of all citizens of San Mateo County. ●

Nez

(Continued from previous page)

INDULGED SPRING
(An Announcing Nose)

The Spoiled Brat's 3rd Annual Liar's Dice Championships started on April Fool's Day, and will continue the next five Mondays, starting at 7:30 p.m. First prize is a \$250 bar tab. The finals will take place on Monday, May 4.

In addition, the Divine Miss Russell returns to the Brat for a limited engagement. On Tuesday night, April 7, peach schnapps will be just 49 cents from 8 p.m. on. Other flavors, just 99 cents. There will be hundreds of "just better than worthless" prizes. The following Tuesday, Divine's favorite—root beer schnapps—will be featured for 49 cents.

Furthermore, Saturday, April 11 will be Tax Time-Down & Out-Hard Times-Hobo Night. At 10 p.m., hunky, hunky Troy will demonstrate how, one by one, the IRS took every piece of clothing right off his back! Wednesday, April 15, will be a free soup line. (Is the soup made from Troy's discarded apparel?)

Moreover, Jerry Halliday and his Glamour Girls will make their Northern California debut on Friday, April 17, and Sunday, April 19, at 8 each night. There will be NO cover charge for these shows.

Besides, new D.J.s Ralph Zepeda and Larry Peterson invite you to "dance all night" every Friday and Saturday. Peter Jermo adds to their music the "hottest lights you'll find."

And finally, the salad bar, baked potato, and 10 oz. fillet mignon steak for \$6 continues every Sunday from 5 p.m. until supplies run out.

OLLA-PODRIDA
(A Ragout Nose?)

Tickets are on sale for Little Mother's May Day Fete Champetre, to be held at Revol on Friday, May 1. The \$50 ticket includes a seven-course dinner and entertainment by Cynthia Bythell, Manuel, and Tootsi. I've heard some grumblings about the proceeds being divided between ACIE charities. I'm here to

tell you that EBAF will receive its share from the proceeds. So don't ignore the event just because of initials or personal grudges.

A few columns ago I made reference to a show being done in Modesto, and that two entertainers from Alameda County were invited to perform. I have been corrected, and the item must be up-dated. The name of the show is Just For The Hell Of It and will be held on Saturday, May 23. The entertainers for the show are by "invitation only" and four were invited from our locale. The entertainers were invited, but everyone is welcome to attend the event.

The OPC (Oakland Parade Contingent) will be meeting again on Tuesday, April 7, 7:30 p.m., at Revol. All interested are urged to attend.

The next ACIE General Assembly meeting will be Tuesday, April 14, 7:30 p.m. at Revol.

Cha Cha (Randy C.) couldn't be contacted about using her registered theme, Closet Ball, so ACIE is going to register the title, Turn About Ball, the first "Tab" will be held at Paradise, Saturday, April 25, from 2 to 5 p.m. Contestants will be charged a \$25 entry fee, and a \$5 donation is requested at the door. Contact Tootsi or Carlos for further information.

Over \$6,000 was raised at Bitches In Black held on March 7. The amount was to be donated to East Bay Assistance fund and Adopt-A-House. The funds will be disbursed at the next ACIE meeting. "We do have to wait," said David M., "for all the checks to clear. Know what I mean?" How well I know.

Eddie P. informs me that Michael Greer will appear once again at Big Mama's. The date is Sunday, April 12, at 7:30 p.m. "He's really better than ever," according to Eddie, "and it's best to get there early, 'cause there's hardly room to move at show time."

If other lines are moving and you are not, you're in the wrong line. If you move to another line, it will automatically become the "new" wrong line. I'll try to smile, Love,
Nez ●

Sonoma Fundraisers

Early April fundraisers are scheduled for Face To Face/Sonoma County AIDS Network. On Saturday, April 4, is Bill Vitelli's 2nd Annual "Pasta Pigout" at the Santa Rosa Inn, 4302 Santa Rosa Avenue, 5:30-9 p.m., featuring homemade ravioli and fritata. Entertainment and door prizes, \$5.

Also on Saturday, April 4, at 8 p.m. is "April Fools Dance for AIDS" with live DJ's, rock and jazz, alcohol-free environment, refreshments at the Unitarian Church, Todd and Stonypoint in Santa Rosa, \$5. ●

AIDS

(Continued from page 18)

• A mass mailing to every home in the nation with preventive education.

Nearly \$80 million in federal education money is stalled because the feds can't agree on what to say. The White House, in a memo stating Americans must "just say no to sex," has forbidden sexually explicit educational materials.

Even when the \$80 million is spent, it is less than the nation spends to market soap, said a Harvard dean.

Harvey Fineber, dean of the Harvard School of Public Health, said the \$80 million education program was less than Proctor & Gamble's current budget to market two new household detergents.

Another \$60 million passed as an urgency bill in 1986 by the Senate is sitting idle. The fund is to pay for experimental drugs so universities can test the drugs without charging the patient. But the feds can't decide how to spend the money.

VACCINE: WHEN?

The federal timetable for an AIDS vaccine likewise appears schizoid. National Cancer Institute researchers said again last week that human trials here would begin by year's end. Bristol-Meyers, meanwhile, prepared a request to the Food and Drug Administration to begin testing its experimental vaccine.

The Americans had reason to feel urgency: the French announced last month that human trials of its experimental vaccine were already underway. The creator of the vaccine inoculated himself as part of the study.

Nonetheless, C. Everett Koop, the surgeon general and leading Administration spokesman on AIDS, said there will be no AIDS vaccine "in this century."

Koop told the CBS News program *Face the Nation*, "A cure I think is very problematical. And a vaccine for this very complicated virus I don't think is in the cards for this century."

Koop noted that it took 19 years to engineer a hepatitis B vaccine, although the virus it mimicks is simpler than the AIDS virus.

Koop said public education is crucial since no vaccine is likely soon.

But with the government's education program still mired in the politics of sexuality, it seemed clear that education does not yet measure up—even to the minimum standards the Reagan administration set for itself.

For the time being, Americans were left with only one tool to fight AIDS: Their own judgment and common sense. ●

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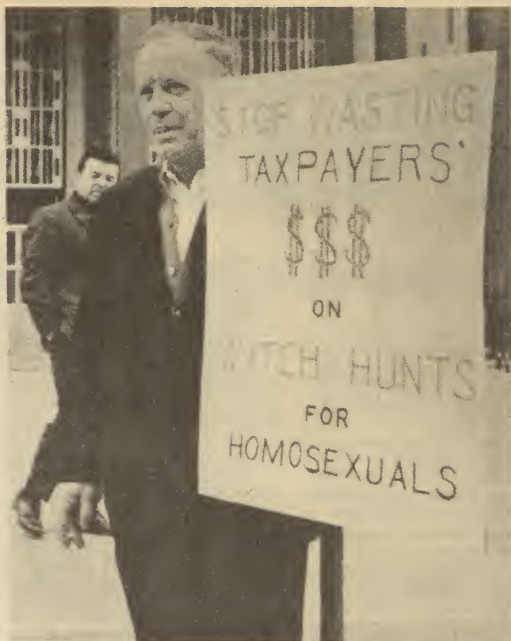
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Guy Strait in 1966 protesting the exclusion of gays from the military.

Gadfly Guy Strait Leaves Legacy of Action

Guy Strait (Mar. 25, 1920 - Mar. 25, 1987), known to all the old-timers in the gay movement, died on Mar. 25 at Laguna Honda Home in San Francisco where he had been resident for approximately ten days. He had suffered a serious stroke early in March and was taken to San Francisco General Hospital from where he was transferred to Laguna Honda after it appeared he was making some progress in recovering.

Early in the 1960s, Guy appeared on the San Francisco scene where he organized the League for Civic Education. In those days there were only the three organizations dedicated to the cause of gay and lesbian rights: The Mattachine Society, The Daughters of Bilitis, and the L.C.E. (as it became known). The L.C.E. met at various locations, one of the first of which was the fourth floor of the public library in Civic Center. In those days you can be sure that the Library Commission was not aware of what kind of organization the L.C.E. was.

This fledgling organization grew and with that came pains of growth. Eventually a group from the L.C.E. split off and formed The Society for Individual Rights, and after that time the L.C.E. continued as an organization with only a few members and the newspaper (LCE News & World Report).

DEATHS

Kendrick Gifford

Kendrick Shepherd Gifford died with dignity and sobriety, surrounded by his lover, family and friends about 7 p.m. on March 16.



Born August 17, 1962, Kendrick grew up in Southern California. For ten years in the Bay Area, he shared himself with countless friends who recall his zeal for disco fans and music.

Kendrick began recovery from drug dependency on June 8, 1986. Five months later he was diagnosed with AIDS. He spent much of his remaining time sharing his experience, strength, and hope with others, particularly those with AIDS. He frequently said his nine months free of alcohol and drugs were his sweetest in spite of AIDS. While a patient on Ward 5A, Kendrick was interviewed by the British Minister of Health, an event widely publicized in the U.K.

Kendrick's wit and courage continue to cast a bright light to his many loyal friends. He enriched immeasurably the life of his lover, Skip Aiken; parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Harold Gifford; sister, Tamala K. McDonald; brother, Harold Dean Schrillo; and nephew, Anthony Schrillo.

A memorial celebration of Kendrick's life was held on Thursday, March 19, at the Neptune Society Columbarium. His ashes will be scattered by his lover and friends as he wished. Memorial contributions in Kendrick's name may be sent to the Shanti Project.

Peter Dean Hogg

5/25/41 - 3/23/87

On March 23, peace came to a friend after a long and sometimes painful encounter with a killer named ARC. Those



who have known him will greatly miss the laughing, sensitive, sometimes loud and always outspoken Peter. The many who shared in this man's life will have a vast amount of memories to fill the void of his passing to our next plane of consciousness. A plane where someday we'll hear Peter's familiar "PARTY" once again. The life that was Peter's is remembered by his family of Madison, WI, and his many friends in San Francisco, Lake Tahoe, and the Russian River areas. The spirit that is Peter will be celebrated. For information contact Chris, 922-8470.

Peace be with you, my friend.

Obituary Policy

Due to an unfortunately large number of obituaries, *Bay Area Reporter* has been forced to change its obituary policy.

We must now restrict obits to 200 words. And please, no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity and taste.

Guy continued with the newspaper long after the League had ceased to function as an organization and the newspaper itself ceased publication in the early 1970s. Guy had decided to pursue other means of ensuring that the local, state and federal governments granted gay men and lesbians their rights by that time but managed to perpetrate one final joke when the US News & World Report sued to enjoin the use of the name LCE News & World Report by accepting the payment of a sum of money from the magazine to stop using the name after he had decided to cease publication.

In the years following, Guy was a very visible member of the gay and lesbian community, always in the forefront of fighting for constitutional rights for all persons. He valued the right of assembly dearly and was ready at a moment's notice to confront those governmental bodies who wished to curtail this right.

He had some legal difficulties in the mid-1970s in Illinois involving allegations of "misconduct" with a minor. He was convicted and sentenced to the state prison there. Without the help of attorneys he appealed his conviction through the appellate courts in Illinois and to the Supreme Court of Illinois where he obtained reversal of his conviction on the grounds of the inherent untrustworthiness of the alleged victim. Unfortunately, he had already been released on parole so this victory was not as sweet as it might otherwise have been.

The district attorney elected not to retry the case and the charge was dismissed. Even at the time of his death Guy was pursuing a lawsuit in the federal courts based on deprivation of his civil liberties in that Illinois case.

Throughout his life, Guy was a model of what a protester ought to be. He never stood still while his or any of his friends' rights were being denied. He didn't suffer fools gladly and where confrontation was appropriate (and even where cautious individuals would think it might be inappropriate) he availed himself of this method of obtaining rights.

Although in the past few years he suffered from serious heart problems, he slowed down not a bit in his activities. He was an active participant in feeding the homeless youth in the Polk Street area.

Guy Strait is going to be missed by a large number of old friends. Though he leaves no estate of any tangible value, he leaves a legacy of fighting for gay and lesbian rights which is priceless.

Funeral Counselor Moving

I am pleased to announce that as of April 1, I will be affiliated with California Funeral Service, located at 1465 Valencia Street (near Army), San Francisco.

This merger will enable us to lower our current price for a direct cremation from \$499 to \$399, and our casket prices to be lowered by \$200 to \$600 depending on the selection. This merger will enable us to enlarge our staff and provide better service. It will also allow Trent and myself some relief in our 24-hour dedication. Our phone number remains the same: (415) 626-3340.

Tom Simpson, Trent Edward, Alex Macias, Frank Maynard and Douglas will continue to serve you. Neither Stephen McCluskey nor Ronald W. Brown will have any affiliation with Tom Simpson or California Funeral Service.

Thank you for the continued trust and confidence you have placed in us. We care about our community and the quality service we provide. If you have any questions, please feel free to give us a call.

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THIS

FRIDAY 3

- **Not Really "The Women"**: stage performance, Capp St. Center, 362 Capp St., S.F., 8 PM. An all-male performance of the classic 1939 MGM movie and play. Free admission, but donations to the legal fund accepted.
- **Way Out West Gang**: music, High Chaparral, 2140 Market St., S.F., 9:30 PM, \$2.
- **Oh, Coward!**: musical comedy based on the words and music of Noel Coward, The City Cabaret, 401 Mason St. (at Geary), S.F., 10 PM, \$14. Call 441-RSVP.
- **Theresa Holcomb & Karen Ripley**: comedy cabaret, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8-10 PM, free.
- **Harry Britt For Congress Campaign**: fundraiser, 91 Alpine Terrace, S.F., 6-8 PM, \$20.
- **Gay Writers and Artists Collective**: meeting. Call 929-7553 for details. DJs, musicians, artists and singers wanted.
- **AIDS Mastery**: three-day workshop taught by Sally Fisher, 6 PM. For PWAs, PWARC and those whose lives have been significantly influenced by AIDS. Call 824-2016 for details.
- **Inga Hoogerhuis and Tracy Stark**: music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$4-6 sliding scale. Inga provides an assortment of blues and jazz with Tracy helping out with vocals and on the piano.
- **The Maids**: stage performance, The Phoenix Theatre, 301 8th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. The Backstreet Collective presents a provocative interpretation of Genet's erotic classic. Call 552-3959 for details.
- **Jim Bailey is Judy Garland**: concert, Theatre on the Square, 450 Post St., S.F., 8 PM, \$18-\$22. Master illusionist/singer Jim Bailey, backed by an 11-piece orchestra, creates an uncanny evening of Judy Garland in concert. Tickets at BASS, Ticketron, or by calling 433-9500.
- **Rents**: stage performance, The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8. A hustler's life on the streets of Edinburgh in a gritty yet touching comedy receiving its American premiere. Call 861-5079 for tickets.
- **Spookhouse**: stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$9-\$12. Harvey Fierstein's turbulent drama about an idealistic social worker who confronts a disintegrating family that lives above a carnival spookhouse. Call 861-5079 for tickets.
- **Church of the Secret Gospel**: service, 746 Clementina St., No. 2, S.F., 8 PM, \$2. Carnal communion to 10:30 PM, refreshments, males 18+ welcome. Call 621-1887 for more information.

SATURDAY 4

- **Not Really "The Women"**: stage performance (See Friday listing for details).
- **Sweet Surrender**: music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5-7 sliding scale. Singer and songwriter Susie Ciancimino is joined by the raw talent of Margo Lockwood. Strong vocals, good harmonies original and jazz standards.
- **The Maids**: stage performance (See Friday listing for details).



Dale Cameron plays Claire in *The Maids*, now at the Phoenix Theatre.

- **Avatar Meher Baba**: a free introductory talk and film about the life and work of Meher Baba, 208 Dolores (at 15th St.), 3 PM. Call 753-6761 for details.
- **Marty Springer Legal Fund**: garage sale, 791 Alcatraz between Shattuck and Martin Luther King, Oakland, 10 AM-4 PM. Call 528-9346 for details.
- **East Bay FrontRunners**: Tilden Park run. Take Grizzly Peak to either South Park Drive or Shasta Road. Continue to Wildcat Canyon Road. Meet at parking lot on left side of road. Flat to slight incline, 3 to 8 mile loop. Call 526-7592 or 261-3246 for details.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays**: game fest, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 8 PM. Call 641-0999 for details.
- **Aiding People With AIDS**: benefit for The Shanti Project, Ye Rose & Thistle, 1624 California St. (near Polk St.), S.F., \$10, 8 PM and 10 PM. Featuring Tree, Sandy Van, Greg Lucey and Michael Behre.
- **Shirley Aenne**: music, Women's Building, 3543 18th St. (at Valencia), S.F., 8 PM, \$5 and up on a sliding scale. Call 388-0626 for details.
- **Big Band Beat**: dance music, The Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St., S.F., 9 PM, \$10.
- **Glenda Choate**: music, Sisterspirit Women's Bookstore and Coffeehouse, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 9 PM, \$3-\$7 sliding scale.
- **Workshop And Mixer For Gay Men Seeking Relationships**: Urban Life Center, 1101 O'Farrell St. (at Franklin), S.F., 7-9 PM, \$5. Call 343-0839 for details.
- **San Jose Cleveland Ballet**: audition, Spartan Complex (on San Carlos between 5th and 7th Streets), Dance Studio on 2nd floor, San Jose State University, 10 AM for scholarship audition, 1 PM for company audition (open call). Call (408) 993-9531 for details.
- **Code Blue**: European-style nightclub for women, Lombard and Taylor, S.F., 9:30 PM to 2 AM, members \$6, non-members \$7.
- **Spookhouse**: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Rents**: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Jim Bailey is Judy Garland**: concert, 3 and 8 PM (see Friday listing for details).

SUNDAY 4

- **Not Really "The Women"**: stage performance (See Friday listing for details).
- **Oh, Coward!**: a Noel Coward musical review, 3 PM (See Friday listing for details).
- **Lady Bianca**: music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6:30-8:30 PM, \$5 cover.
- **The Maids**: stage performance (See Friday listing for details).
- **Leather Night At The Campus**: Campus Theater, 220 Jones St., S.F., 9 PM. Call 673-3384 for details. Well, boys and girls, get yourself down to the Campus as Mr. Marcus hosts the Velocity Strip Squad members!
- **Gay Fathers of SF/Bay Area**: meeting and potluck, Congregation Sherith Israel, 2266 California St. (at Webster), S.F., 5 PM. Call 841-0306 for details.
- **Eric Budden**: art exhibit, Walt Whitman Bookshop, 2319 Market St., S.F., 3-5 PM.
- **Radiant Light Ministries**: celebration of life and love, Swedish-American Hall, 2174 Market St. (at Sanchez), S.F., 10 AM. Call 861-1988 for details.
- **Dive, Dive My Darling**: swimming pool party, The Oasis, 11th St. & Folsom, 1-6 PM, \$5 in advance, \$7 at the door. A presentation of Mobilization Against AIDS and the San Francisco Band Foundation Flag Corps. MCs: Danny Williams, Ethel Mermaid and Ms. Peckerhead. Call 396-4947 for details.
- **Benefit For Lesbian/Gay Chorus of S.F.**: The New High Chaparral, 2140 Market St., S.F., 5 PM, \$3. Entertainment features Jene Bombardier and Leslie Smukler, the S.F. Saddieframps, the San Jose Spurs, the Savoy South Bay Stompers, Foggy City Dancers and Danny Williams. It also includes a chili feed, raffles and a door prize.
- **San Francisco Hiking Club**: Daylight Savings Hike to Tilden Park in the Berkeley Hills, 10:30 AM. Call 647-2193 for details. Meet at the UN Plaza fountain at Civic Center. Estimated cost: \$5.
- **Bululu**: salsa music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM.
- **SF Gay Men's Chorus**: recital, First Congregational Church, Post & Mason Sts., S.F., 4 PM, \$5.
- **G40+ Club**: meeting and discussion, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin (at Geary), S.F., 2 PM. Speaker: the GGBA's Rod Palmer.
- **Jim Bailey is Judy Garland**: concert, 3 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **Rents**: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Spookhouse**: stage performance, 3 (\$9-\$10) and 8 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **New Life MCC**: worship and communion service, 1823 9th St., Berkeley, 5 PM. Call 843-9355 for more information.

WEEK



The SF Lesbian/Gay Men's Chorus will be performing *In Memory of Friends* on Thursday at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre.

MONDAY 6

- **Mid Pins Bowling League:** gay bowling league, Camino Bowl, 2025 El Camino Real, Mountain View, 6:15 PM. Call 961-2121 or 296-3257 for details. We are now taking reservations for full teams, couples or single signups. We want to have the most successful gay league in the area.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** Massage Night, by appointment only from 6:30-9:30 PM, members - \$10, non-members - \$12. Call 641-0999 for details.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** Italian language class, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 8 PM, members - \$70, non-members - \$90, includes all study material and refreshments. A ten-week course taught by a native speaker.
- **Project Inform Public Forum:** discussion on available experimental drugs used in treating ARC/AIDS, MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 928-0293 for details.
- **Operation Concern:** support group for older men (60+), 1853 Market St., S.F., 7-8:30 PM. Call 626-7000 for details.
- **1987 Cable Car Awards Cast/Crew Party:** premiere of MEN video of the event (simulcast on Viacom Channel 6) on S.F. Eagle's projection screen, 398 12th St. (at Harrison), 8 PM, free.
- **How Then Shall We Live?:** television on KCSM channel 60, 7 PM. Dr. Helen Caldwell discusses options for preserving and protecting life on our planet.
- **Buddy Connection Safe Sex Workshop:** MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7-10 PM. Call 863-AIDS for details. Sponsored by the SF AIDS Foundation, this workshop is designed to help gay men learn how to make 'safe sex' exciting.
- **Chuck Solomon: Coming of Age:** documentary on KQED, Channel 9, 10:30 PM. An intimate portrait of one man, Chuck Solomon, his community and the strength to live with AIDS.

TUESDAY 7

- **Harry Britt for Congress Campaign:** victory party, Trocadero Transfer, 520 Fourth St. (at Bryant), S.F. Free.
- **National March on Washington:** planning meeting, The Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 486-0269 for details.
- **Jim Bailey is Judy Garland:** concert (see Friday listing for details).
- **AIDS Project of the East Bay:** PWA/ARC support group, 6-8 PM. Call 420-8181 for more information.
- **AIDS Project of the East Bay:** family, friends, and lovers support group, 6-8 PM. Call 420-8181 for more information.
- **Drag Queen Social Group:** support group, 8 PM. Call 776-4027 for more information.
- **Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays:** meeting, Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord, 8 PM. Call 372-9014 or 827-2960 for more information.
- **People of Color:** support group, 513 Valencia St., 6-8 PM, free. Educational support group for minorities experiencing anxiety about their health, sex, and AIDS. Sponsored by the AIDS Health Project. Facilitated by Julius Johnson, PhD. Childcare available with 24-hour notice. Call 681-7887 for more information.
- **Temescal Gay Men's Chorus:** rehearsal, Trinity Hall, 2320 Dana, Berkeley, 7:30 PM. Call 843-1439 for more information.
- **San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps:** rehearsal, Jon Sims Center, 1519 Mission St., S.F., 7:30 PM. All band instrumentalists are needed. Call 621-5619 for more information. Every Tuesday.

WEDNESDAY 8

- **Oh, Coward!** a Noel Coward musical review, 8 PM (See Friday listing for details).
- **Hunter Davis:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6:30-8:30 PM, free.
- **Comedy Plus:** open stage comedy with MC Marga Gomez, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$2. Featuring Righteous Raoul, Sandy Van and Maureen Brownsey.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** Spanish language class, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 8 PM, members - \$70, non-members - \$90 (includes all study material and refreshments). A ten-week course taught by a native speaker.
- **Tear Gas Certification Classes:** sponsored by UCSF Police Dept's Personal Safety program 1350 7th Ave., S.F., 6-9 PM. Call 476-5683 to register and for more details.
- **How Then Shall We Live:** (See Monday listing for details).
- **The Blazing Redheads:** music, New George's, 842 4th St., San Rafael, 9 PM, \$2.
- **Memorial Mass For Those Who Have Died of AIDS:** St. Mary's Cathedral, Geary at Gough, S.F., 7 PM. Call 864-7400 for details.
- **Federal Lesbians and Gays:** third birthday celebration, Rooney's, 22 9th St., S.F., 6 PM. Buffet, no-host cocktails. Everyone welcome, especially gay/lesbian federal employees. Bring a magazine for people with AIDS. Call 695-9174 for details.
- **Fruit Punch:** radio on KPFA, 94.1 FM, 10 PM. The topic is: AIDS, epidemic or weapon of war? A live, in-depth discussion and call-in on the possibility that AIDS has been bioengineered by the U.S. Government. Intelligence expert David Emory promises to offer startling new evidence. John Morrison is the host.
- **Lesbian/Gay Open Reading:** poetry and fiction reading, Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 282-9246 for details.
- **Women's Writers Workshop:** for older lesbians (60+) and friends, 1853 Market St., S.F., 6-8 PM. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **Jim Bailey is Judy Garland:** concert (see Friday listing for details).
- **Spookhouse:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

THURSDAY 9

- **CUAV Benefit:** 108-C Fillmore (at Hermann St.), 8 PM, \$6 general admission, \$3 youth and seniors. Performance includes dancer Todd Thorsen (Inches Magazine), pop recording artist Rich Montez, saxophonist extraordinaire Rach Czar, country group Way Out West, and avant-garde libertine Jon Sugar. The film *Bashing* will also be shown.
- **Alexander Hamilton American Legion Post 448:** meeting, Veterans' Memorial Building, Room 213, 7 PM. Call 431-1413 for details.
- **In Memory of Friends:** benefit for The San Francisco AIDS Emergency Fund, Palace of Fine Arts Theatre, S.F. \$20, \$10. Available by phone at 762-BASS, all BASS locations including Headlines, STBS, Gramophone and the AIDS Emergency Fund at 441-6407. Call 986-3319 for details.
- **Divine:** stage performance, Club DV8, 55 Natoma, S.F., 9 PM, \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Available through BASS and at DV8. An evening of purely tasteless entertainment with the star of *Pink Flamingos*, *Polyester* and *Lust in the Dust*.
- **Get High With The GGBA:** an evening of varied entertainment coordinated by GGBA's Social Events Committee, 5 Fremont Center, 31st Floor, 50 Fremont, S.F., \$8 advance member registration, \$10 for members at the door, \$12 for guests. For reservations, call 956-8677. Entertainers include harpist Michelle Sell; and writer Rick Mills.
- **San Francisco Acoustic Jazz Trio:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM, free. With Mimi Fox, Irene Sazar, and Suzanne Vincenza.
- **Oh, Coward!** a Noel Coward musical review, 10 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **Jim Bailey is Judy Garland:** concert (see Friday listing for details).
- **Spookhouse:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **AIDS Project of the East Bay:** PWA/ARC support group, 2-4 PM. Call 420-8181 for more information.
- **Disabled Gay Men:** support group, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 6-7:30 PM. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **Pat Wilder's R&B Jam:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 10 PM, \$2. All musicians welcome.
- **AIDS Interfaith Network of Contra Costa County:** meets at Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord, 7:30 PM. Call 827-2960 for more information.

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BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

Homoeroticism and Pee-Wee Herman: Could The Secret Word Be 'Gay'?

by Robert Triptow

I'll be the first to admit it. I have the hots for Pee-Wee Herman. Maybe not exactly the hots, and not necessarily for the character of Pee-Wee himself, but I do have an overwhelming curiosity about Paul Reubens, the actor who plays the part. Aside from my undying admiration for anyone who can make millions by acting like a nine-year-old in public, I'm dying to know just what sort of person is under that suit. Who is Paul Reubens? Does he have, as is rumored in Hollywood, a great body with a big tattoo?

Could the ultimate Secret Word on Pee-Wee's Playhouse be "gay"?

All you conservative parents know what to do when you hear the Secret Word, don't you? That's right! Scream real loud!

Negative reaction to Pee-Wee from uptight parents popped up immediately, but not for some of the obvious reasons. One reads of objections to his "abrasive personality" in TV Guide and in magazines such as L.A. Parent. (Tellingly, that publication ran its critique of Pee-Wee opposite an article about "new etiquette" for children.) The conservatives seem to object to the overall tone of anarchy in the Playhouse, which does resemble a cross between Soupy Sales and Captain Kangaroo — on acid. How much more will they object when they finally notice some of the apparently gay ("Aaarrgghh!") references in all of Pee-Wee's work? For instance:

The Pee-Wee Herman Show, an HBO-televized, live-stage precursor (meant for adults, incidentally) of the Saturday morning show, started right off with some shady gender distinctions that continue on *Playhouse*. The super-masculine sailor Captain Carl and ultra-feminine Miss Yvonne can't seem to get together without a little magical help from Jambi the Genie, who even Rolling Stone described as a drag queen. That says a lot for a character who is a disembodied head in a box. Perhaps it's all in the delivery: "Swish! Did somebody say 'swish'?" Later on in that show, Jambi receives a pair of hands, announces that "there's something I've been wanting to do for a long time," and closes his box for some privacy. Maybe there's a double entendre there, but when we next see Jambi, he's filing his nails like any good queen.

It's noticeably easier for Miss Yvonne to be wooed by Hermit Hattie, the tomboyish (shall we say?) Calamity Jane-type who brings her perfume in the HBO special. There's a similarly butch woman in *Pee-Wee's Playhouse*, the very pretty but tough Dixie, who drives taxi for the King of Cartoons. Obviously there's room in Pee-Wee's Saturday morning world for strong women who don't necessarily have super-

(Continued on page 44)



(Illustration: Michael Goldberg)

Asking Beth About Gay Teens

by Marv Shaw

When Beth Winship speaks to youth groups and the anonymous written question is "Should I come out to my class?" the nationally syndicated columnist puts the question right back to the group. Their answer almost always is "No!" When she presses for the reason, the response, most frequently from a male, is "He would be destroyed."

While this blunt reaction is disappointingly absolute and negative, the writer of Ask Beth explained in a recent interview that it is to be expected from an age group often very rough on anyone different. "After all," she added, "even the adults hardly know how to handle the issue. So it is probably too much to expect of an adolescent."

With no less an authority than Dr. Everett Koop, the Surgeon General of the U.S., recommending broadening and deepening sex education curricula as one countermeasure to the AIDS epidemic, attention to what teenagers know and how they act about sex is more than ever in the public mind. Beth Winship has been contributing to the formation of such opinions since the mid-'60s.

Beginning with a general interest column for the Boston Globe, she gradually turned to

specializing in teenage matters because her own three children were that age then. At the suggestion of a Florida editor, she began specializing even more in adolescent sexual matters, using a question and answer pattern. Today, her column appears in more than 80 newspapers, including the S.F. Chronicle, Baltimore Sun, Detroit Free Press, and The Washington Post.

From the letter format, it would appear that she is a "Dear Abby" of the teenagers, but that is slightly misleading because she does not respond privately to letters, except for a few in her Boston area. Her reasons are that she does not have a large staff, does not know enough about resources in other areas, and thinks that when letters run into the hundreds per day, answers tend to be "canned."

Nevertheless, careful selection reflects ongoing, commonly troubling problems of youth. She believes she is reaching a large audience because she gets mail from everywhere.

Basically, her preparation was built from frequent consultation with experts and much direct experience with youth groups of all kinds. "Answering about half the questions just involves common sense. The others concern real, specific information I get from

anyone who knows. And I guess I have been trusted out there long enough and haven't made so many glaring mistakes that people think I am a fool," she said. One mark of that trust is her membership on the Board of Trustees of the Sex Information and Education Council of the U.S.

One of the most frequent gay questions asked is about the difference between being really gay and being actually straight but going through an episode of a strong attachment to a person of the same sex. Beth's response to that inquiry is double. "You just have to wait and see. Often the phase part is more experimentation than strong commitment to same sex desires." She believes most people who really are gay are pretty well aware of that by the time they get through puberty.

On the origin of sexual orientation in anyone, she is characteristically frank: "I really don't have the answer, and I don't think anyone else does... but I must say I lean toward a genetic answer."

About the youthful concern of "converting from gay to straight," she replies, "It is my understanding that it can't be done. And I have told kids that while they can change their be-

havior, so far as I know, psychiatrists do not believe that any amount of counseling will actually change your sexual orientation and desires."

Because high school counselors are the people Beth often urges teens to confide in, she hopes these professionals would all be honest, sympathetic, and understanding. "I really feel that gay teenagers have a very hard time. I think they are very lonely."

Beth sees conquering teenage homophobia as difficult but possible. "It's really a question of education and experience. It's uphill work when the adult population is so skittish on the issue. I think the best way is to address the issue honestly, to talk about it as it is, something that exists in the world."

In addition to her column, Beth has written three books: *Reaching Your Teen Ager*, *Ask Beth: You Can't Ask Your Mother*, and *Masculine and Feminine*, a high school sex education text she is currently revising for Houghton-Mifflin.

In conclusion she said, "My sympathy is boundless for those stuck in a situation where they can't come out. I sincerely hope that change will come because we shouldn't pick on anybody for something that can't be changed."

Film Fest Faces Finale

At this point in the 30th San Francisco International Film Festival I am physically incapable of relating to beings who are not projected onto a flat surface before my eyes, so don't be offended if you approach me in person and I look through you toward the nearest screen.

If you've yet to reach that state of cinema nirvana, allow me to suggest some highlights of the final festival weekend, based on previews or informed guesswork. Events listed are either of specific gay interest or generally recommended and are at the Kabuki unless indicated otherwise. All time are p.m., and all information can be verified or corrected by calling 221-FILM.

THURSDAY:

8 — Michael Powell Tribute
9:30 — *Black and White* (minimalist French male-male S/M; read Tennessee Williams' "Death and the Black Masseur" first so you can follow the plot)

FRIDAY:

4:30 — *Black and White* (see above)
8, Palace of Fine Arts — *Personal Services* (Pythonesque whorehouse comedy)
9:30 — *Man of Ashes* (controversial Tunisian homophobia with one or two pretty male leads, depending on your taste)
9:30 — *The Realm of Fortune* (grimly effective portrait of Mexican poverty, spiritual as well as financial, by the director of *El Lugar sin Limites*)
10 — *Withnail and I* (English comedy about would-be actors in the '60s)

SATURDAY:

1 — Directors' Round Table (free)
4:30 — *Man of Ashes* (see above)
5 — *The Realm of Fortune* (see above)
7, Castro — *Nosferatu* (1922 version, live organ accompaniment)
7, Pacific Film Archive — *Black and White* (see above)
7:30 — *Swimming to Cambodia* (Jonathan Demme's film of Spalding Gray's monologue; both will attend)
8 — *Just Like Weather* (Allen Fong drama of a troubled marriage)
9:30, Palace of Fine Arts — *Bad Blood* (acclaimed crime romance by the maker of the execrable *Boy Meets Girl*)
10:15 — *Swimming to Cambodia* (see above)

SUNDAY:

1 — The Filming of *Swimming to Cambodia* (see above)
1:30 — *Just Like Weather* (see above)
3, Pacific Film Archive — *Bad Blood* (see above)
5, Palace of Fine Arts — *Man Facing Southeast* (Argentine shrink tries to analyze an alien; great until weak finale)
8, Palace of Fine Arts — *Prick Up Your Ears* (Stephen Frears turns Joe Orton's biography into a gay *Sid and Nancy*)

NOT ANOTHER FESTIVAL!

As someone for whom there are never enough hours in the day, I should appreciate the time-expanding power of *Will Vinton's Festival of Claymation*, the longest 77 minutes I've spent recently. Vinton's by-now familiar technique works well in small doses — commercials, shorts, and the "Nome King" in *Return to Oz* — and even worked in longform in *The Adventures of Mark Twain* with a script that retained enough Twain wit.

In this compilation feature, however, even short subjects which impressed in other contexts become dull when strung together. *Claymation*, a promotional short, offers a behind-the-scenes look at the Claymators at work. It's got to be tedious, moving clay figures 24 times for each second of film, but why should we suffer?

The best thing about this *Festival* is the connecting sequence,



Three raisins 'sing' *I Heard It Through The Grapevine* in Will Vinton's *Festival of Claymation*.

Freak Previews, which lampoons television movie critics; but the material doesn't sustain the concept over the long haul. Clay is a great medium for the evolutionary themes of *Legacy* and *Creation*, the latter enhanced by James Earl Jones' narration, but it does nothing for the pure schmaltz of *A Christmas Gift*.

Vinton's work has highlighted many other festivals, so this *Festival of Claymation* seemed like a good idea. So did the Edsel. (Castro, UC)

DIRECT FROM BERLIN

Coming of Age, the moving documentary of the late Chuck

Solomon's 40th and final birthday party, directed by Marc Huestis and produced by Wendy Dallas, airs on KQED Monday night at 10:30 p.m. with a repeat on KQEC Friday, April 10 at 8 p.m.

The San Francisco filmmakers recently showed *Coming of Age* (Continued on next page)

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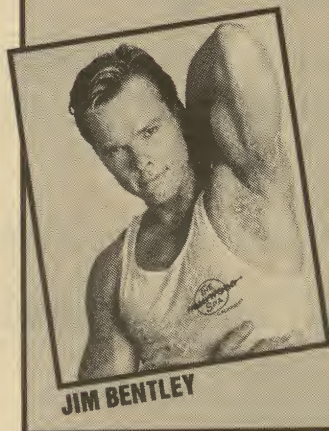
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Warren

(Continued from previous page)
at the Berlin Film Festival. "Rex Reed came to see it," Huestis reports, "and he loved every minute of it." That includes the minute where Reed's name is taken in vain as having "loathed every minute" of the Gay Men's Theatre Collective's *Crimes Against Nature*.

Aside from rave reviews across Europe, where people have only recently started to take AIDS seriously, the Berlin showing is resulting in theatrical, television and additional festival showings in many countries for Marc and Wendy's labor of love.

LAME "DATE"

Blake Edwards is the best at

what he does because no one else is stupid enough to do it. *Blind Date* is a step up from *A Fine Mess*, but it peaks too early and its combination of slapstick and scatology makes Pee-Wee Herman look cerebral by comparison.

Bruce Willis draws Kim Basinger as his date for an important company dinner. Willis' charm eludes me as much as his musical ability does, and Basinger is overly made up and poorly costumed; but you have to buy the premise that they're in hetero heaven. He's warned she goes crazy when she drinks, so he practically forces her to down some champagne on the way to the dinner.

The dinner is the funny scene, but it's followed by an hour of



"Ich Bin Ein . . ." Marc Huestis, L., Rex Reed in Berlin.
(Photo courtesy Marc Huestis)

anticlimax as Basinger's psychotic ex, John Larroquette, chases the couple around town and — the rest isn't worth relating. In

some early moments Edwards threatens to hit his groove from *The Party* — not one of my favorites, but it has a cult — but he

blows it, badly.

In the area of social responsibility, *Blind Date* could be a feature-length commercial for seat belts. There's a lot of jumping in and out of cars, but Willis always buckles up. (*Galaxy*, *Empire*, *Century Plaza*)

THE RIGHT ADDRESS

No one in their right mind would make a film about 20 years of correspondence between two people who never meet. Fortunately some crazy people have done it, and you'd be out of your mind to miss *84 Charing Cross Road*.

Well, it's not for everyone; but if you enjoy well-made little dramas such as *DreamChild* and *Turtle Diary* which are intelligent without being intellectual, this one's for you.

Anne Bancroft plays New Yorker Helene Hanff, "a poor writer with an antiquarian taste in books," who in 1949 began ordering from a shop in London. Her little notes amuse reserved Anthony Hopkins, whose personal service — not as unusual in that day as it appears now — impresses Hanff. She sends food parcels to the ration-wracked Brits at Christmas and Easter and becomes a "fairy godmother" to the Marks & Co. staff.

Though Hanff has friends, her largely solitary life is brightened by her epistolary relationship with these people she'll never meet, as well as imaginings of the former owners of her second-hand books. Bancroft projects her warmth and charm, but doesn't convincingly age 20 years.

The world does, however, and the film remains visually interesting with vivid snapshots of life on both sides of the Atlantic that must have been a logistical nightmare to recreate. (*Kabuki*)

★ ★ ★

Like his movies *Betrayal* and *84 Charing Cross Road*, director David Jones is bright, easygoing, and probably a little kinky beneath the surface. He came to the opening of our little film festival directly from the royal command performance of his new film in London, and confirmed newspaper reports that Joan Collins had been in attendance. "She was four down from me . . . The queen mother did indeed say, 'I do love *Dynasty*,' and Joan said, 'I hope you don't think I'm too evil!'"

About 30 seconds before the film mentioned the 1952 death of King George VI, Jones said, he became acutely aware that it was coming up. "I looked at the queen mother (his widow), and there were tears in her eyes." Also present that night was the real Helene Hanff, who had previously seen her book of correspondence translated to television and the stage. Jones was relieved that "she liked it very much."

"It's an incredibly simple story," the director said, but "it seems to have an enormous tug on people." On location in New York he was surprised at how many he encountered who were familiar with Hanff's tale.

An Englishman, Jones has lived in Brooklyn long enough to feel bicultural, and equally at home in both countries; he filmed 16 days in each. The last day of Hopkins' shooting was the first day of Bancroft's, her brief scenes in London, and the stars had lunch together, their only encounter during the project. "They're old friends," Jones said, "and they're angry because this is the third time they've been in the same film without having any scenes together!"

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Jim and Judy, Judy and Larry

The next time Judy Garland dies, I hope they let her stay that way. That said, I have to admit that Jim Bailey is the most impressive illusionist I've ever seen, and his "Judy Garland in Concert" gives us Judy in every possible prime.

His Judy is healthier, happier, prettier . . . heck, he even sings "better" than Judy, with more velvet in his voice. How thoroughly he manages the incredible trick of becoming Judy for a two-hour concert. Yet that's the problem: it's a trick. He cannot be Judy, and although he gives an uncanny performance, we do not forget we are watching an impersonator.

It's a trick that some will give in to easier than others, but I don't feel it's aided by Bailey's presentation of his act, which never reveals his presence. We marvel at the myriad details which convince us this is Judy Garland even as we search for the telltale signs that it's not: we watch the mechanics of an impersonation, not Judy. It would be better, perhaps, if instead of denying his not inconsiderable art, Bailey gloried in it, made it the purpose of the evening by doing two illusions per night, as he used to. That way the heat would be off, and we would watch Bailey being great at presenting illusions, instead of Bailey convincing us his illusions are real.

For he can't be great being Garland. Despite the look, the movements, the voice, he lacks what made Garland great: charisma, for one, and, most damning, the urgent need to perform, the emotional clutch that bonded Judy and her audiences. And I don't mean her neurosis and mania; simply, Bailey's Judy lacked heart.

Another point. Many in the audience clap and yell as if they've studied their cues from Judy's records, just as we've memorized the musical arrangements and vocal inflections. Wouldn't Bailey's act be more interesting if he included more new material? Listen to his stunning recording of *Out of This World* on the new *Mostly Mercer* album. Judy never sang it, but it's Arlen and in her idiom. It's fresh and impressive in a way the old material can never be. Hear, also, in his concert, how well Bailey does with *I'm Still Here*, written a year after Judy's death, but seemingly tailor made. It's a relief to hear something not previously stamped measure by measure into our memories.

You can tell this wasn't really my thing, and that's the bottom line for this unusual art form. I was especially pleased and touched with Bailey's sincere acting and emotional connection to *Over the Rainbow*, and a couple of ballads he sang with piano accompaniment only. These were simply and affectingly rendered. But I watched most of the rest — and a generous program it is, too — from a distance. Those with a predilection for such an act will find Jim Bailey the absolute tops. Others, like myself, will find that as uniquely impressive as Bailey is, it's still not "live." (Theatre on the Square through April 12; 433-9500)

★ ★ ★

There's a second Judy impersonator in town, but this one doesn't wear a

dress. He's Larry Storch, the character actor best known for his long run on television's *F Troop*, who is here to play Dr. Einstein in *Arsenic and Old Lace* at the Curran.

You didn't know he did Judy? He's the one Cary Grant credits with inventing the "Judy, Judy, Judy" line. Back in the '40s, when Storch was known as "The Rembrandt of the Impressionists," he was doing a dynamite version of Grant. "So I was brought up in front of him at the MGM commissary," Storch told me by phone during the St. Louis run of *Arsenic*, "and told, 'Show Mr. Grant what you can do.' And I did it as a handle to get into other lines. It was a good name to stretch into six syllables. But it's a funny thing, because Grant never said it."

"I tip my hat to Jim Bailey," Storch said when he heard he'd be in town at the same time. "He's marvelous."

It's Storch's own lifelong

knack for accents and impersonations that brings him back to the city where he once headlined (at waterfront bars and then the Fairmont and the Golden Gate) and courted his wife (at Al Williams' Papagallo Room). That was when his "Rembrandt" nickname was current. He got it because he played his offbeat impersonations — Charles Laughton, Frank Morgan and Monty Woolley — straight.

"I was very pure," he told me. "I didn't have a punchline in my act. But I found out if you put in a ripple of comedy, people liked it better. And the bar crowds I played to in San Francisco were a beer and schnapps crowd, all tattooed. They wouldn't hold still for me. I had to cater to them."

A lot of us would cater to a tattooed beer drinker, too, and anyway, Storch loved that ripple of laughter — and the even greater fame that came with it.

Most of it was based on his accents. Like his more recent long run. He's just finished a three-year run in one of the only two non-singing roles in *Porgy and Bess*. "I played a bigoted detective who comes on down to Catfish Row to find out who killed Robbins in a crap game. We played the Metropolitan Opera and all over Italy," he said. "I'm very proud of that."

(Continued on page 31)



Larry Storch, Gary Sandy and Jonathan Frid in *Arsenic and Old Lace*.

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Character Studies

I recently overheard a pompous young opera queen hold court while ranting on and on about how "Maria just wouldn't have sung it that way!" Simple mathematics told me that the child couldn't possibly have started attending live performances until after Callas had retired from the operatic stage. As a result, his judgments had to be based on some wildly bizarre combination of having listened to the soprano's recordings (a false medium); having read her reviews (a falser medium); having taken as gospel the hearsay element in operatic lore (the falsest medium of all) and then sifting these ingredients together through the perverse thought processes of a frustrated young musician struggling to give vent to a tortured ego.

Many operatic performances lie enshrined within the hearts and minds of music fans. For some opera queens, no soprano could ever hope to match the artistry of Beverly Sills' Manon, Elizabeth Schwartzkopf's Marschallin or Maria Callas' Violetta. For others, Norman Treigle's Mefistofele, Ezio Pinza's Don Giovanni and Franco Corelli's Romeo hold an aura of historical legend which gives them an other-worldly importance.

While such sanctified status is all well and fine for the artists in question and those people who were able to see them perform such roles, each and every opera-goer must develop a feel for a

character through the artistry of the singers he sees perform a role during his lifetime. Although, for many years, I've heard people rant and rave about Bidu Sayao's Manon, I personally never saw it and would not attempt to judge its artistic merits. Even though I am willing to accept the word of operatic historians and musicologists with a large grain of salt, I can't help but wonder if even their memories — at least those that are genuine and not second-hand — haven't been glorified with the passing of time.

The observation of beauty, which rests in the eyes of the beholder, will always be a subjective matter. Nevertheless, two recent performances allowed me to observe what, for me, were the quintessential portrayals of two of opera's most beloved characters. Having waited a long time for these experiences, when they finally took place I left the Metropolitan Opera House with a sense of intense satisfaction.

YOUNG AND REBELLIOUS

Though she is probably in her late teens or early twenties, Bizet's Carmen is a woman whose survival skills have been sharpened by her sexual awareness, primitive intellect and willingness to accept change. To do her justice, she must simultaneously be portrayed as a spitfire street slut and a psychically-gifted woman. Although Julia Migenes-Johnson did a fine job in the re-



Agnes Baltsa brought her lively portrayal of Bizet's *Carmen* to the Met in early 1987.

cent film of *Carmen*, few sopranos — at least in my experience — have ever managed to reach inside themselves and get a handle on the blazing spirit of independence which lies at the core of Bizet's heroine.

For the past 20 years I've been waiting to see and hear a soprano who could live up to the peculiar

requirements of this role. Those who sang it often couldn't act it. Those who tried to vamp their way through the opera usually had no voice left. Most of the singers I've seen have already reached the point in their careers where they will resort to operatic posturing (a process known as "giving Carmen-style attitude") instead of developing a dramatically viable characterization.

Last year, I walked out of Sir Peter Hall's *Carmen* because the production and mezzo-soprano Isola Jones' performance were nothing less than atrocious. Substantially restaged this season by Paul Mills (with the dances in Act II re-choreographed by Maria Benitez) the Met's production is now a much more tolerable affair. Indeed, largely due to the efforts of Agnes Baltsa, the Met's revival of *Carmen* became a deeply moving and surprisingly satisfying theatrical experience.

It's been years since I've seen a performance of this opera which was so intensely effective, but you'll probably have to experience Miss Baltsa's characterization yourself in order to understand why. The Greek mezzo-soprano's youthful and athletic body language, full earthy voice, oversized personality and sharply iconoclastic portrayal of Bizet's gypsy girl made me feel as if I had finally seen Carmencita brought to life. Soon to be telecast live from the Met, this is one performance which should not be missed, for Baltsa hits the musical and dramatic bull's-eye without resorting to any of the standard operatic bullshit. Believe me, that's easier said than done.

OLDER AND WISER

One of the most beloved characters in all of opera is the Marschallin, a woman who not only knows that time is running out on her but who understands that her physical beauty will soon begin to fade. And, although a successful performance of *Carmen* depends on the presence of a singer who can project lots of sex and personality, Strauss' *Der Rosenkavalier* is a much more delicate and refined affair.

In many ways, the Marschallin serves as a dramatic foil to Octa-

vian's passion, Sophie's youth and the crudeness of Baron Ochs. Most of her music is shared with other singers; a great deal of her participation in Act I is strictly conversational. Therefore, the Marschallin presents a curious challenge to a soprano, for this is hardly the type of role in which one can get away with chewing the scenery or belting out high notes to please the canary worshippers in the crowd.

As one of the few introspective roles in the operatic repertoire, the Marschallin gives a singing actress a wonderful opportunity to win an audience's love through studied silence. The dramatic sagacity of turning upstage at just the right moment, looking out the window for one second too long — or even letting an eyelash flicker seemingly out of control — can transform a performance of *Der Rosenkavalier* into a theatrical tour-de-force for whoever is singing this role.

Although many have tried to capture the woman's character, few have succeeded as brilliantly as Elisabeth Soderstrom. Her interpretation reflects the kind of deft craftsmanship and profound artistry whereby a performer actually becomes the character she is portraying. Soderstrom IS the Marschallin; her every movement and reaction to her colleagues onstage so intensely correct within the dramatic context of Strauss's opera that her performance leaves the audience in awe of this woman's communicative skills.

The Swedish soprano's recent appearance in the role at the Metropolitan Opera was cause for both celebration and regret for, added to the Marschallin's wisdom was the mercilessly dramatic overlay of Soderstrom's own body clock. One of the opera world's great artists (this soprano has consistently been hailed for her emotional honesty, musical intelligence, compassion, curiosity and versatility) Soderstrom is now in the twilight stages of a long and impressive career. Just prior to her sixtieth birthday, her recent string of Marschallins at the Met will probably turn out to have been her farewell to the American operatic stage. She will be sorely missed.

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Award Films, Part 2

by David-Alex Nahmod

A bit more of what's available from Award Films, the L.A.-based video company that deals mainly in gay cinema. These titles can be rented from Superstar Video (18th Street, off Noe) and Captain Video (Market, off Castro), and other outlets.

EL DIPUTADO (1982)
Directed by Iloy de la Iglesias

That an openly gay filmmaker like de la Iglesias can now work unhampered in Spain shows how much the political climate of the country has changed — for the better. *El Diputado* (The Congressman) did, however, generate a storm of controversy upon its initial release. De la Iglesias was taking quite a career risk when he made this film. He went against the grain of popular opinion by creating a sympathetic gay character.

The story follows Robert, a handsome politician who loves his wife but also has an insatiable need to be with teenage boys. His wife fully accepts his ways, and even becomes a surrogate mother to one of his boy friends.

Roberto, an important leader of the Marxist party, is becoming a bother to his political enemies. Unknown to him, his new boy friend is being paid by rival party leaders to get him involved in a scandal and ruin his career. But fate intervenes, as man and boy fall deeply in love.

El Diputado is a moving and thought-provoking film. This superbly written plea for political and sexual tolerance is a work the director can be proud of, and we can be proud of our Spanish brother for telling us and the world this story.

COLEGAS (1984)
Directed by Iloy de la Iglesias

As *El Diputado* has proven, Iloy de la Iglesias is a very fine filmmaker. As an out person, he has no problem in dealing with homosexuality in blunt, no-holds-barred terms. But after seeing several of his films you might wonder why he has such a bleak, pessimistic view of life.

The story of *Colegas* (Pals) is simple. It's about two working class Madrid teenagers, lifelong friends, who become both hustlers and drug runners in order to pay for a girlfriend's abortion. The story is a tad clichéd ("good" boys thrust into bad situations beyond their control). But de la Iglesias is such a masterful storyteller that his films tend to transcend movie clichés. The characters are for the most part believable, and the story is fast-paced and intelligently fascinating.

De la Iglesias got a little carried away with his own pessimism during the overly tragic finale to *Colegas*, but overall, the film deserves to be seen.

Both *El Diputado* and *Colegas* are in Spanish with English titles. The subtitles are, for the most part, clear and easy to read, except for a few brightly lit scenes where they blend in with the backgrounds.

WE WERE ONE MAN (1981)
Directed by Philippe Vallois

We Were One Man is a strange, little seen film set in the French countryside during World War II. It studies the boisterous love affair that develops between a simpleminded peasant boy and a beautiful German soldier.

Originally shot in 16mm, the film's low budget is betrayed by its grainy, murky photography and poorly recorded sound. The film suffers from these technical faults, yet there's something immensely likable about *We Were One Man*. The two leads put a lot of energy into their performances, and the funny/sad script is intelligently offbeat. It all adds up to a most unusual viewing experience.

We Were One Man is in French with English subtitles. The titles are sharp and easy to read.

Next month, the gay video marathon continues with a look at how Hollywood perceived us in the days before Stonewall. (Remember *The Killing of Sister George*?)

A.C.T. Aids AIDS Groups

by Steve Warren

In his satirical film *A Virus Knows No Morals*, Rosa Von Praunheim predicts Broadway will shut down next January because so many people in the theater have succumbed to AIDS.

Recognizing how slight an exaggeration this is, the theatrical community has responded to the epidemic many times in many ways. Now American Conservatory Theatre (ACT) takes a turn. The April 19 performance of the final production of its season, Nagle Jackson's *Faustus in Hell*, will benefit the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Shanti Project, and Hospice of San Francisco.

ACT artistic director Ed Hastings says all salaries for the evening have been waived, with union sanction. An estimated \$23,000 worth of donated services will help the theater raise

\$50,800 for the beneficiaries, in the likely event the performance sells out. Tickets are priced at \$50, \$30, and \$20.

Faustus in Hell is being directed by Michael Smuin, who says he's "been sort of adopted by ACT." Peter Donat heads a cast of more than 40 as Faust, who sells his soul to the devil. "Thank God everyone knows what the story's about!" Smuin says, because he's having fun with this version, basing characters on Lionel and John Barrymore, Marilyn Monroe and Errol Flynn.

Jackson's script draws from Marlowe and Goethe, among other sources, but the "Seven Deadly Sins" portion was farmed out to seven American playwrights, including Edward Albee, Joyce Carol Oates, and Christopher Durang. Smuin calls

it "a high-energy, fast-moving play with music." While he's best known for his choreography, he says this work involves "more people-movement than dance-movement."

Previews of *Faustus in Hell* begin April 15, with the official opening set for the 21st, two days after the benefit.

Hastings believes ACT is one of the first non-profit theaters to mount an AIDS benefit of this magnitude. When asked at a press conference whether it was a one-shot or the start of an ongoing program, he replied, "I don't see any reason why we shouldn't do this every year."

Tickets are available at the ACT box office in the Geary Theatre and may be charged by phone at 673-6440.

Karr

(Continued from page 29)

He got the role when the actor in it previously suggested him to the producers. "They heard me do the accent and said, 'That's all we need.'"

A similar circumstance brought him to *Arsenic*. The producer's wife saw him in *Porgy* and suggested him. "They asked to hear a German accent, I did it for them, and got the role."

It's the role Peter Lorre played in the film version, and Storch learned his lines by taping himself as Cary Grant, Lorre, and Boris Karloff. "The only one I didn't do was Josephine Hull,"

he joked, but he based his accent for the role on another woman.

"I picked out Marlene Dietrich as my model. I thought that was the classic German accent — venomous, but with a Viennese lilt."

So Mr. Storch is back in San Francisco, not with his stand-up comedy but in a comedy where he's knocked down. And out. The famous show, about two little old ladies whose favorite charity is poisoning lonely, homeless men, stars Jean Stapleton and Marion Ross, and will be at the Curran through May 2.

THESE TOO

Don't forget that the exciting *Tango Argentino* is at the Golden Gate for a brief two weeks only. Michael Feinstein is at the Plush Room, and for the curious, there is a show billed *Not Really "The Women"* and subtitled *A Play for Men in Dresses About Love, Hate and Manicures*. This could be more or much less than an all-male *The Women*. It's at The Capp Street Theatre, and it's free. Check the calendar.

BOOKS

Candy Kane

Secret Dangers

by John Preston
Alyson Publications, \$4.95

by Paul Reed

With this fifth installment in the series called "The Mission of Alex Kane," John Preston presents a simple plot about international terrorists who choose gay men as their target. With all the action and politically correct subplots (black and white men together, the horrors of child molestation, the issue of public coming out for schoolteachers), this is the standard gay action novel we've come to expect from the series.

The series has, so far, been delightful. These books have been like candy, short and sweet. Preston has wrestled with a variety of gay issues in a straightforward entertaining way.

But with *Secret Dangers*, the formula didn't work for me. The two main subplots that converge in the climax of the book didn't "fit" particularly well. The climax comes too soon, without

enough suspense, and the final two chapters simply sum up what has happened in a plain kind of postscript.

Don't get me wrong, though. I have loved this series for its light entertainment value, and I have admired Preston's political agenda in writing the series. Where other writers of gay genre books shy away from tackling the real issues that occupy our community, Preston dives right in with these short action novels.

For that reason alone, these books deserve to be read. But I would like to see a little more suspense, a little broadening of the depth and scope. What I want from Alex Kane now is something more substantial, something that will hold my attention for more than a light reading. This is good writing, but I want more of it, not just a bite.

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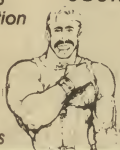
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Mr. Marcus

Getting It On With Leather

The march toward winning the Mr. Leather of SF title continues with the finals taking place next Wednesday, April 8, beginning at 2200 hours at the SF Eagle. Last Wednesday in Round 2, Jerry Downing took the 1st place spot with David Sarathain landing the 1st runner-up. Last night, April 1, two more winners were selected and the six will compete for the \$500 in cash, round trip airfare and hotel accommodations in Chicago and a shot at the International Mr. Leather title in Chicago, the weekend of May 22-25. If you're planning to attend the "Academy Awards of Leather," the \$449 package deal is still available through Vern Stewart. This year, the carrier is American Airlines and they've pledged 5 percent of the airfare for AIDS. The package deal includes a reserved seat at the contest, hotel, round trip airfare and other goodies. Those of you planning to get there by other means should purchase your \$50 weekend package for the Chicago festivities by writing to Intl. Mr. Leather, 5025 No. Clark St., Chicago, IL 60640. But don't wait as the tickets are going fast already. The Powerhouse has yet to name its contestant and no word from the Detour Bar either. Lonnie Lee will represent Kinky's.

In Los Angeles, the Gauntlet II bar seems to be the only one doing anything: its contests start tonight for the next few weeks with a \$700 cash prize. Bob Linsley, manager of the Gauntlet II, wants the title bad and may want a little bet on the side going with Terry Thompson here.

Last Thursday, the first man to land a spot on the Eagle's Bare Chest calendar twice turned out to be Brian Berger. Judges Rick Mills (Gay Times columnist), Patrick McGuire and former Miss Gay SF Ronnie Lynn, held sway over nine contestants and in the end, Brian (who was Mr. June 1986) captured the May 1988 spot on the calendar. The Eagle was jam-packed for the event and the judges were more amusing than some of the contestants. Rand Worrel grabbed the runner-up spot.

Saturday night, the Constantines M/C celebrated their 20th Anniversary at the California Club with a big turnout. One of their congratulatory presentations was that hot new idea from Johnny Hedges; they're about a dozen or so balloons filled with helium and accompanied by an adorable teddy bear. This is a variation on a theme that's sure to please and only costs in the vicinity of \$20 for the basic arrangement. Next time you're strapped for an idea that's different, call (415) 621-2248 and Johnny will be sure to help solve your problem.

Sunday afternoon, gorgeous weather, gorgeous men, gorgeous music filled the air again at the Eagle as City Swing serenaded the laid-back crowd. Gail Wilson



Sup. Harry Britt greets Emperor de Motorcycling Gary Kenyon of the Constantines M/C in one of his recent trips to the Leather Community.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

proved she's an A-1 entrainer. Her set on Sunday afternoon moved the crowd to an emotional level not normally found at a Sunday afternoon beer bust. Closing her set with "San Francisco" and "I Left My Heart in San Francisco," the buoyant crowd somehow and inexplicably got turned into an emotional aura of brotherhood as arms were linked and even some tears were flowing. It's difficult to explain what happened and why, but LaWilson turned it into one of those unforgettable moments when loving kindness permeated a musical event and moved the audience to a state that one would hope could

last forever. It was just one of those things, but oh what it turned out to be! Ah Gail — you do!!

Monday night, TV sets were tuned on from Colma to Calcutta as close to a billion viewers witnessed the most predictable Academy Awards show ever. I don't know what Bette Davis was on, but I want some! And Bette Midler could have wrecked the place, but probably got a severe warning before she went on. For a change, the show was not as boring as it has been in the past. All over town, private parties and public ones abounded with few

(Continued on next page)



In a frenzy for discipline at last week's International Ms. Leather contest, a member of the press and the MC even punished the tape recorder.

(Photo: Robert Pruzan)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)
picking the winners. Hey, Paul Newman finally made it — all right!

★ ★ ★

Hopefully, the weather held up to today. All over town, shirts were discarded and I saw much raw material for the Bare Chest Contests. Good news almost everywhere. Ron Arvin finally won Muni Man of the Month! Sighed one queen: "Now maybe we can all get some rest!" The Intl. Ms. Leather people announced a profit in excess of \$7,000 as a result of their efforts and the proceeds will be distributed on April 15 at the Club DV8 and you're all invited for the ceremonies. (It's on a Wednesday.) Bravo!

You can really get into the swing of things. Don't forget to set your clock forward one hour this Saturday night at 0200. Tonight is the Buns Calendar Contest at the Endup. On Friday, April 3, they'll be auctioning off Bill Bowers photos on the walls at the SF Eagle with a percentage going to the Hospice beginning at 2100. On Saturday morning, April 4, the Constantines M/C leave the Watering Hole around 10 a.m. for a ride around the bay. Phil Slatin celebrates his 38th birthday. The emperor and empress will hold the investiture of their court at the San Franciscan Hotel beginning at 2000 hours. And Sunday, April 5, scads of things to do: The Inter-Club Fund has their beer bust at the SF Eagle; A swim party at the Oasis called *Dive, Dive, My Darling* from 1300 on. There's a benefit at the High Chaparral (yes, it's still open for business!) for the Lesbian/Gay Chorus (only \$3) and Lady Bianca will appear at the Baybrick Inn. It's also Leather Night at the Campus Theatre. Beginning at 1800, it's all leather movies with free beer. The Arena section and the Showers will be open for inspection and the Varsity Strip Squad will have the skins draped around their, ahem, bodies. Porn star Jim Bentley can hardly wait to meet a hot, top leather man in the audience. Don't miss THIS one!! Monday, April 6, the Cable Car Awards will be telecast on Channel 6, but if you'd rather be with the winners, it will be shown at the SF Eagle too, with the party beginning at 1900. On Channel 6, the telecast is at 2030. On Wednesday, April 8, the finals of the Mr. Leather of SF Contest are at the Eagle and on Thursday, April 9, the big show at the Palace of Fine Arts, "In Memory of Friends" (and in support of those living with AIDS) starts at 2000 hours for the AIDS Emergency Fund and featuring Weslia Whitfield and the Lesbian/Gay Chorus. It will feature Joe Poltrone, Gail Wilson, Tom Vetrano, John Lusk, Pamela Brooks and Tom Anderson, Vocal Minority, Menage, Men About Town and the Tap Troupe to mention only a few. It's not to be missed!

If that's not enough to keep you busy, you might check out Le Salon's latest release: *Looking Good*, another sexual romp with some 11 new dudes that includes one of the best oral sex sequences yet! Available from Le Salon, of course!

I DISH I DIDN'T LOVE YOU SO

Were you all aware that yesterday, April 1, was National J/O Day? And did you get your strokes in for the occasion? Is it true that Yvonne De Carlo is supposed to be appearing in person at the Castro Theatre with Yma



Jerry Downing, r, winner of the second round in the Mr. Leather of SF contest last week with runner-up David Sarathain at the SF Eagle. (Photo: Mr. Marcus)

Sumac for a showing of the movie *The Cobra Woman*? I always thought Maria Montez was the star of that flick? If you're wondering about it, call Jim Cvitanich — it's one of his favorite movies!!

And the other night, this sporty new car with license plates PAIN 02 was parked outside the Powerhouse. Now depending on our native tongue, pain in French means bread, and every decent leather dude knows what it means if he has a bottom pet. The guy driving the car had on a beret and an earring in his left ear and as he sped off, he dropped a loaf of pumpernickel at 9th & Folsom. What is this world coming to?

Quite a few dudes went to the Gay Rodeo in L.A. over the weekend and from all reports, it was great with a big turnout, great

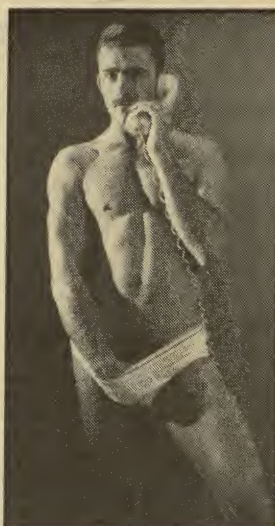
weather and lots and lots of cowboys and cowgirls. One dude went down a cowboy and came back a cowgirl, to which Big Lady Shannon who hangs out at the Rawhide II responded: "Man today, girl tomorrow — what's a girl to do?" Speaking of cow persons, the SaddleTramps are holding auditions at the Rawhide II on Sunday, April 12, at 1130 hours. 1130 hours? Better stay home the night before or get lots of Erase if you're planning to compete to win a spot as an understudy, repeat understudy. And while we're talking Rawhide II, can somebody please tell me where is Rawhide I?? Call 285-1755 for more info on the auditions.

The SF Eagle will be celebrating its 6th Anniversary on April 20 through 22 (Mon-Wed). On the

(Continued on next page)



Bill Johansen, the winner of the first round of the Mr. Leather of San Francisco contest. (Photo: Scott Martin)



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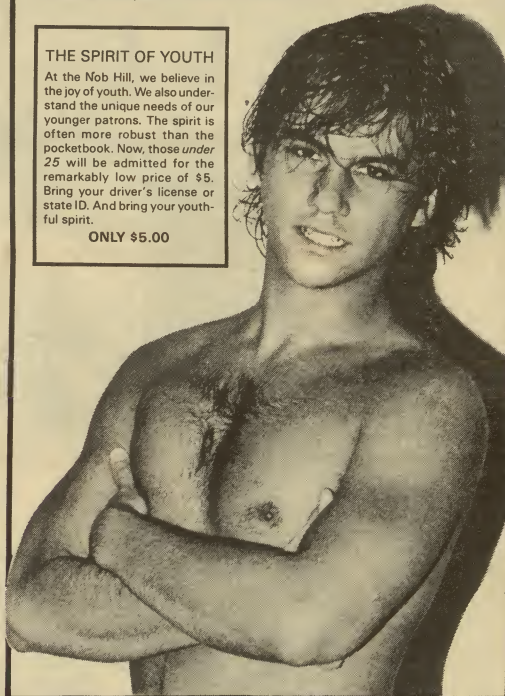
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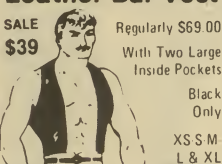
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THURSDAY 4/2

Plant (And Things) Auction, Pilsner Inn, 8 p.m., benefit Pilsner softball team and 15 percent to World Series Fund.

FRIDAY 4/3

Warlocks M/C Open Meeting, S.F. Eagle, 8:30 p.m.

Pre-Investiture Party, Kimo's, 9 p.m., \$2 donation, 50/50 raffle.

Tribute to Bobby Pace and Pre-Investiture Party, Kokpit, 9 p.m., hostess Natasha.

Roast 'n' Auction of Bill Bowers Photos, S.F. Eagle, 9:30 p.m., host Mr. Marcus.

SATURDAY 4/4

Bloody Mary Party, Pilsner Inn, 6 a.m.-2 p.m., every Saturday and Sunday, \$2.50, hosts Ron and Olin.

Constantines M/C One-Day Run and Open Meeting, S.F. Eagle patio bar, 3-7 p.m.

Investiture of Emperor Patrick and Empress Tina Tanner, San Franciscan Hotel (Crystal Ballroom), doors open 7 p.m., investiture commences at 8 p.m., for tickets/info contact Tina, 341-0253.

Pat Montclair Bazzaz '87 Show, Kimo's, showtime 12 a.m., \$3.

SUNDAY 4/5

Mr. and Miss Gay San Francisco Car Wash, Church Street Station parking lot, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., \$4.99 (includes one beverage at Hideaway Bar).

Taxi Jim and Elmar First Anniversary Party, Men's Room, 2-5 p.m.

Inter-Club Fund Spring Beer Bash, S.F. Eagle, 3-6 p.m., \$7 donation.

Benefit for Empress Tessie Senior Citizens' Easter Dinner, Kokpit, 3-7 p.m., \$1.50 buffet, 50/50 raffle.

Benefit for Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco, High Chaparral, 5 p.m.-?, \$3 donations, entertainment, chili feed, raffles and door prize.

MONDAY 4/6

Cable Car Awards Cast and Crew Party, S.F. Eagle, 7:30 p.m., showing of Cable Car Awards.

TUESDAY 4/7

Britt for Congress Victory Party, Trocadero Transfer, 8 p.m., no charge.

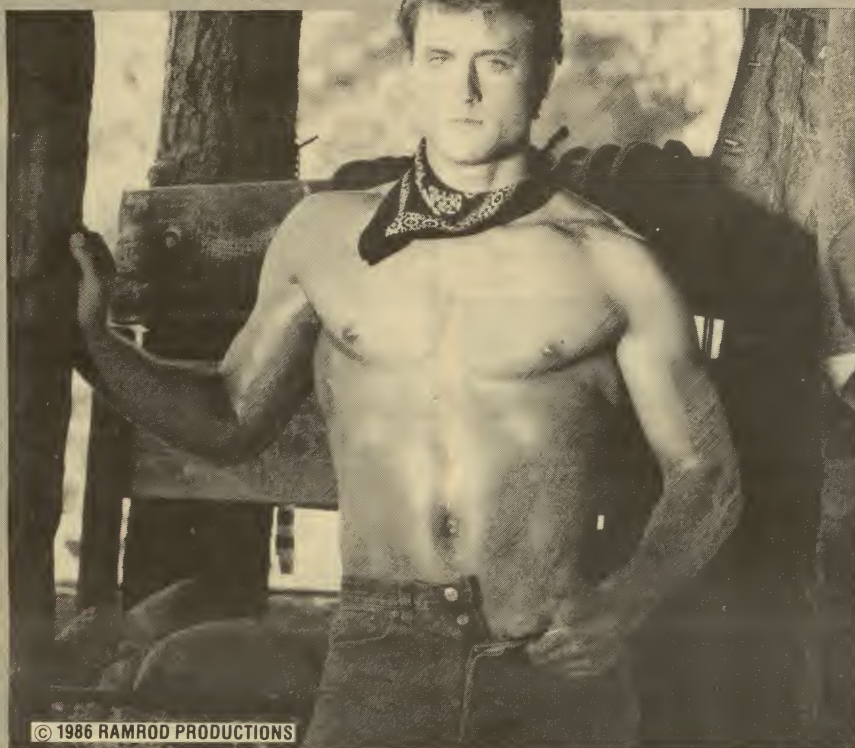
Birthday Party for Paul and Victory Party for Emperor Patrick and Empress Tina Tanner, Kokpit, 8:30 p.m., 50/50 raffle, show, fundraiser for Night Ministry.

WEDNESDAY 4/8

Mr. Leather San Francisco Contest Finals, S.F. Eagle, 10:30 p.m.

Compiled by Diedre

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Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

20th, they'll be giving out anniversary pins; on the 21st it's Tee Shirts (special ones) for the first 200 in the door and on the 22nd, there will be a special show and buffet by the staff. Don't miss it!

Since it's official that the Stud will be moving into the old Arena (now 9) soon, I've been told that Alexis will open a spot on the Folsom St. premises that will maintain the same atmosphere of the Stud. I hear Jerry Jones flew in from Hawaii in such a panic that even Lady Edy was on edge for days! The future looks bright with Alexis running two bars on Folsom before the end of the year — just like in the old days, no? Patrick Toner is taking this squad of people up to the Russian River to open and run the new "Atlantis" bar there and the RushRiv establishment is shivering in their timbers already! The more the merrier is the slogan to think of here. Leather Weekend on the River will return and it's about time!

And right about now, are you a little tired of "straight" politicians promising us the moon and never delivering? We need, want and deserve a voice in Congress and the only way it will happen is if you vote for Harry Britt next Tuesday, April 7. If other minorities can do it, so can we! You have no idea how important it is for us to finally have representation in Washington. Vote early (by absentee ballot), but vote. And vote for Harry Britt. Sir! Lady!

Hope to see you all around and about. 'Til next week, then, hang in there, support the charities you think deserve it, keep your legs crossed and remember: People are deceived by names, but not by actions!

Joining Forces for the Run Season

As you will recall in my column of March 5, I offered several alternatives that the motorcycle clubs might consider on how they schedule their summer weekend runs. This was mainly in response to the low number of people eligible to nominate and vote for the Barbary Coasters Annual Motor Cycle Awards. This was certainly not criticism towards any of the clubs, but a distress alert to make everyone aware of the problems that every club has been experiencing. As more runs are scheduled and as costs increase, the number of attendees at each of these runs will diminish. It only stands to reason that people will become more selective and certain clubs will always get their loyal supporters due to their longevity of hosting weekend runs.

I am happy to report that my suggestions have been echoed by other people and that the Barbary Coasters and the Warlocks Motorcycle clubs have joined forces to host a joint weekend run this summer. The run will be held during the weekend of July 24 through 26. This weekend is usually when the Barbary Coasters host their run. Since the club had already announced its run theme, this was the weekend that both clubs agreed to join forces. This does not mean that the Warlocks have given up their reserved date in September. The club has indicated that it will be having an event during that weekend. The club's Road Captain, Geoff Mains, has several ideas which might include a weekend ride which would qualify the participants to earn their touring patches.

The two clubs have already had a joint meeting to discuss logistics and to identify responsibilities that each club, and the group as a whole, would be obligated to perform. Everything from finances, advertising and chairmanships were discussed and voted on by both groups. The success of any organization depends wholly upon the willingness of those involved to be committed and follow through on their assigned responsibilities. Both clubs have had extensive experience in organizing and hosting runs. They also have had some of the largest, (attendance-wise), weekend runs in the past and therefore are comfortable in handling large numbers of people.

This year's run theme is "2000 BC" and promises to be a fun-filled weekend. The excitement expressed by both clubs for the opportunity of working together for the common good is both gratifying and noteworthy. Committee meetings have already been set up, and they will report back to the joint group at the next meeting in April. Although both clubs will be working jointly in all aspects of the run, each club has been assigned specific areas. The Barbary Coasters will handle the run show and kitchen and the Warlocks will handle the bar and bike events. Look for more information about this run as it becomes available. I hope this joint effort by both clubs will start to set a precedent and encourage other clubs to similar action. This will not only cut down the number of weekend runs that one will have to attend to qualify to nominate and vote in the

motorcycle awards, but it will also encourage more participation and still maintain the reasons why clubs host weekend runs, i.e., camaraderie and for the good of the community. We will have to wait and see.

NOTABLE CONTRIBUTION

Rod Rodriguez, who is a waiter at the Elephant Walk, is one of many people throughout our city who are making a notable contribution for the well being of our fellow brothers who have AIDS or ARC. Once each month, Rod invites people with AIDS/ARC to his home for a home-cooked meal and fellowship. His invitation is also extended to their lovers and/or close friends. According to Rod, "it's a way for these people to relax, enjoy a hot meal and do networking. The day is not structured in any way, so there is no pressure for anyone to be in any type of conversational sharing mode. Says Rod, "since I've been doing this, those who attend have created a family support group and are now doing things together. They don't feel lonely any longer and they look forward to these monthly dinners." Rod tries to set a theme for each month's dinner. Last month it was St. Patrick's Day and February's was Valentine's Day. Also, the lovers and close friends of the people with AIDS/ARC are able to share experiences and gain support from each other to better understand and deal with the AIDS crisis.

Rod does this as his way of contributing to easing the difficulties of people with AIDS/ARC. "I looked around trying to find something that I could do and settled on doing this as my way of contributing to the cause."

My hat is off to you Rod and wish you continued success in your endeavors. It's people like you that help to soften the difficulty of trying to live life with the AIDS epidemic.

UP AND COMING

On Friday, April 3, the Warlocks Motorcycle Club will host its Open Meeting at the San Francisco Eagle's Patio at 8:30 p.m. There will be a 50/50 raffle with the proceeds going to Coming Home Hospice. Also, the winner of the raffle will get a free ticket to the club's annual Easter Run which is scheduled for Easter Sunday, April 19. So "come on down" and join the fun to raise funds for Coming Home Hospice. Saturday, April 4, the Investiture of the Imperial Court of the Golden Gate will be held at the Crystal Ballroom in the San Franciscan Hotel (Market and Eighth Streets). Doors open at 7 p.m., with the ceremonies commencing at 8 p.m. sharp. Their Imperial Majesties, Emperor Patrick and Empress Tina have chosen their court colors of Green and Gold and the court name above. Once they are officially invested into their offices of state, they will name members to their court and cabinet. Tickets are available at the Galleon or from either Emperor Patrick or Empress Tina and members of the Imperial Board of Trustees. Reserved seats are priced at \$20 and \$15 for the main floor and \$10 for balcony.

On Sunday, April 5, the Inter-Club Fund will host a beer bust

is maintained and available to those in need. The ICF is made up of representatives from each of the motorcycle clubs and elected independent members from the motorcycle community.

The SaddleTramps Country and Western Dance Troupe will be holding auditions for understudies on Sunday, April 12, at the Rawhide II (Seventh and Folsom Streets) at 11:30 a.m. Successful candidates will have the opportunity of performing with the dance troupe. (This weekend the SaddleTramps are performing at the Los Angeles Gay Rodeo.) For more information or details, call 285-1755.

It isn't too early to start making that Easter Bonnet, it's just weeks away and you could be left out of the fun. The Warlocks

will host their annual Easter Run on Easter Sunday, April 19. Check-in is at the New World (Folsom and Eighth Streets) at 10 a.m. Once check-in has been completed, riders and buddies will take a short tour through the city and rendezvous at the motorcycle and people events location. After the events have been completed, participants will regroup at the San Francisco Eagle Patio for lunch, beer bust and Easter Bonnet Contest. Winner of the hat contest will receive a free ticket to the joint weekend run this summer. A donation of \$10 for the entire day is requested or \$7 for just the beer bust. Awards for the Rider, Buddy and People events will also be presented. For more information, be at the club's open meeting on the 3rd or

(Continued on next page)

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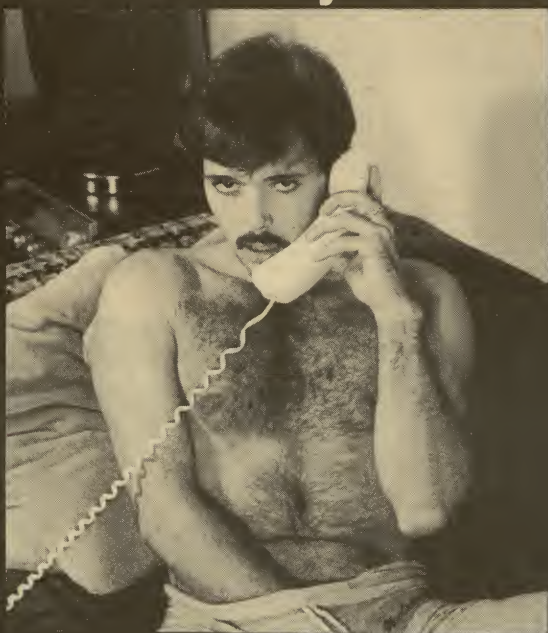
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Sweet Lips

Let's Remember Tessie

On Sunday, April 5, from 4-8 p.m. the Kokpit will present a "Dedication of the Tenderloin Tessie Dinner Program Memorial Plaque." A \$2.00 donation is asked for 50/50 raffle and drawing plus a show and food. . . . Proceeds will benefit Easter Holiday dinners for senior citizens at St. Pauli's Church. For donations, please call Empress Phyllis at 621-2531. This is a great cause for a great person who did so much for the senior citizens. Let's keep up Tessie's work! And thank you Phyllis.

You are cordially invited to join the Imperial Family for The Investiture of their Most Imperial Majesties, Emperor Patrick and Empress Tina on Saturday, April 4 at the Crystal Ballroom of the San Francisco Hotel. Doors open at 7 p.m. For ticket info, please contact Tina at the Galleon (341-0253) this Thursday or Friday from 12 noon until 7 p.m. This promises to be a great and interesting affair, so don't miss it and good luck to both Patrick and Tina, love ya girl.

IRS Special Gourmet Dinner at Ginger's Too on Wednesday, April 15 for only \$5.99 (and we pay the tax). Reservations: 543-3622 and dinner is served nightly from 6 till 10 p.m.

Thank you Char of the Kokpit for the lovely new look that still hasn't arrived! Understand that Linda's Phone Booth now has a piano bar and will be celebrating their 13th Anniversary on Friday, April 3. Sorry that I don't have more info on when, but I can never get Linda to return phone calls for info. But I will let you dear readers know so that you can join in the festivities for the 13th anniversary with a great group of people.

On Wednesday evenings, Teddy Bears, Victor Davis' 2,600 Teddy Bears, present the one and only "Pauline" singing as only she can with Larry O' at the piano . . . love ya gal. Did you know that our own Lucy aka Lynn Bumpus, is now holding forth on the planks four nights a week at the extremely popular Boxes which is a part of the Fish Grotto complex in Portland. They have the hottest video in town, including soft porno which is legal there. How about a card once in a while Lucy as we all miss you and your great humor(???)

Thank you for the note Totie and Russ, but I do work five days a week and so I am sorry that you missed me as I realize that your day was a disappointment at not seeing my smiling face on the planks.

Dick Petroff of Gilmore's is now on the planks Wed, Thurs. and Friday. Nice to see you back, Dick.

Please don't forget to VOTE! All votes count. Your's can make the difference, right Harry Britt?

Listen Dixon of the Galleon: be careful how you handle my Lonnie when he is working out there at the Galleon . . . and you should see Lonnie in full leather, Dixon, a real turn-on.

Incidentally what did Flame of the Polk Gulch do in full leather at the very popular Eagle Bar? Turds where Flame??? Understand that you had to straddle the bar stool, in more ways than one. How, Chuck & Nick?

Why do they call C.T. at Ginger's, Hazel? And it seems as

if Leo of Ginger's has a new fetish . . . water sports in bed, Leo . . .

The Pat Montclair show at Kimo's is a show stopper. So don't miss it as this is talent at its best, right Tina?

Why not drop a Get Well card to Jay (Ethyl) Noonan's sweet Mom, who is recovering from an operation (at 86 years young) a card will be loved by this wonderful woman. The address: Bessie Noonan, c/o Marshall Hale Hospital, 3698 California Street, Room 623, San Francisco, CA 94118. Thanks.

If you are ever in Chico, that's right, Chico, stop in at the Chico Cheese and Charcuterie which is a fabulous restaurant and serves great wines and is owned by two former San Franciscans . . . and they have Mark as a waiter. He was formerly with Wilde Oscar here in the city years back. You remember that place don't you, Mike Dooley of the White Swallow?

Thank you Bob Huffman of Portland for doing such a great job on the piano at Ginger's Too last Sunday during brunch. Everyone loved your classics and want to know when you will be returning on a permanent basis. After all, between you and Dennis Gartner of Portland, I may corner the market, but only if I can get the one and only Mame aka David Hamilton to come on down too.

Watch for the fabulous Cinco de Mayo party coming to Ginger's Too—fun, entertainment and a great Mexican dinner—so mark the 5th of May on your calendar.

Thank you Bruce of the Watering Hole for doing over our Reader Board—after "Spot" Cook screwed it up.

Remy

(Continued from previous page)
ask any member of the club. Hope to see you there for a day of fun and frolicking.

DO DA DE

Congratulations and good luck to Brian Kelley of the San Francisco GDI Club for being elected the new Road Captain. The club will host their annual weekend run during the weekend of June 19 through 21 and the theme is "Eighteen Wheeler"

Congratulations to both the Barbary Coasters and Constantines of the Bay Area on celebrating their 21st and 20th anniversaries respectively. Good luck to both clubs and we hope 1987 will be full of successes.

Get Well wishes to Vinnie Russell, Road Captain of the Barbary Coasters. Hope you're feeling better.

Do you want information about your upcoming events printed in this column? Send them care of the Bay Area Reporter and to my attention and I'll be happy to list them, but do send them at least a month in advance so I can list them in time.

Off to the slopes to attempt skiing. Hah!! It should be an experience to say the least and hopefully I won't break any bones. Scott is going to try and look after me. Boy, does he have his hands full, so to speak. Ever see a junior moose tumble down a hill before . . . look out below!

That's it for now . . . hugs to all . . . Aloha!

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Confusing Sex and Orgasm

by Mark I. Chester

A recently released book calls into question current methodologies of Western medicine for treating AIDS. It presents ideas, theories and food for thought on healing AIDS from the perspective of a holistic viewpoint.

The human potential movement which blasted out of California in the 1960s including Esalen, Fritz Perls, Ida Rolf (rolling) and John Lilly (water isolation tank) among others, seems to have faltered during the 1970s, dead-ending in capitalistic ventures that offered personal expansion for ever-increasing enrollment fees. It is not surprising that in the face of the failure of Western medicine to offer any satisfactory approaches to healing AIDS, that the human potential movement has gotten a shot in the arm (and a kick in the butt) as increasing numbers of people search for alternatives, many of them within the holistic health movement.

Psychoimmunity & The Healing Process: A Holistic Approach to Immunity & AIDS edited by Jason Serinus (Celestial Arts, paperback, \$9.95) takes an expansive look at alternative approaches to understanding, preventing, dealing with and healing AIDS and disease in general.

Interesting, challenging, sometimes confrontative and annoying, it is a book that deserves to be read by everyone affected by disease and the AIDS health crisis. Celestial Arts and their editor Paul Reed (also a B.A.R. writer) deserve special credit for supporting and publishing this dialogue.

Serinus and others posit that health comes from an alignment and balance between the mind, body and spirit. Disease occurs when there is an imbalance, disharmony or disease between those three elements. And, despite the physical reality of organisms or viruses, all people have the power within themselves to re-establish realignment and health. That idea is inextricably intertwined with taking responsibility for one's life and the creation of unconditional love.

Having gone this far, I offer the reader a warning. Holisticism (I pray Webster will forgive me), as with any other -ism, has its own special vernacular and approach that fervently and insistently asserts itself. Some readers may be confronted by what appears to be on the surface, new-age babble. But the ideas, while controversial, have their basis in previously published work that was widely popular, and is the next

logical step from the human potential 'I can!' movement.

Both the Don Juan books by Carlos Castaneda and *The Crack in the Cosmic Egg* by Joseph Chilton Pearce declared that the limitations of our abilities were created by our perceptions that our abilities had limitations. In the face of the pervasive and inescapable perception by society-at-large that AIDS is terminal, it takes a true leap of faith to hear that it is possible to heal AIDS:

To be free to heal, it is necessary to step outside the materialistic framework that confines our imagination to what can be rationally demonstrated and proven, and to have faith in our own power and potential... There is more to our existence than the rational mind can either explain or grasp. Through a willingness to embrace Ultimate Truth, the mind and spirit can work with the physical body to overcome this dis-ease.

The centerpiece of this exploration is an extensive inquiry by the Holistic Group (unfortunately never identified by Serinus) into the nature of AIDS, predisposing factors, development of AIDS, diagnosis, safe sex, condoms, transmission, prevention and a broad investigation of detoxifying and healing approaches. It is intelligible and interesting, covering more material more completely and concisely than any

other publication I am aware of.

It is also challenging. The Holistic Group declares that "the AIDS virus particularly strikes individuals and groups who have been isolated by the dominant culture — culturally isolated minorities who are forced to express their emotional, physical and spiritual nature apart from the community at large — and individuals within those isolated communities who experience undue psychological and/or socioeconomic hardship."

The stress and oppression that gay men experience is perceived as a more important factor in the spread of AIDS than contact with the AIDS virus. Other fascinating ideas include the possibility of transmission of antibodies to the AIDS virus resulting in a positive reaction to the AIDS antibody test without contact with the AIDS virus itself, and the high percentage of AIDS cases in Africa among black heterosexual women being traceable to lacerations in their vaginal tissues acquired from penetration by the male before full clitoral or other stimulation or adequate lubrication.

But this is just the beginning. *Psychoimmunity* presents cleansing diets, meditations and affirmation, cleansing baths, and information on the chakras, flower essences, and antiviral and immune-enhancing substances in addition to a wide ranging resource list of healers and organizations of interest. This information is invaluable, although it should be noted that it will become outdated fairly quickly.

In addition, Serinus has added interviews and short articles by people with AIDS actively involved in healing themselves and healers who work extensively with people with AIDS. This provides a very human and down-to-earth personal counterpoint to the technical work and philosophical viewpoints. In starting the book, they create an accessibility that is helpful as the information gets more technical and dense.

Hopefully, Serinus will periodically update and enlarge *Psychoimmunity*. With this in mind, and without detracting from my previous opinions, I do have some concerns about this book.

One of the most frustrating and angering aspects of this health crisis is the conflicting, contradictory or unsupportable

information and claims that we are continually faced with. *Psychoimmunity* presents so much material, that someone with AIDS may find it bewildering and just plain confusing. For someone new to these ideas, just being told to "listen to your inner voice" may not be enough.

Even more disturbing is the continued conspiracy of silence leaving people who claim that they have healed themselves of AIDS in total anonymity. Serinus has a point when he asks, "How can one declare oneself 'cured' or even in remission of a 'new' disease which medical science cannot yet accurately identify or test?" But as a community how can we possibly view AIDS as other than inescapably terminal when those who have healed themselves are invisible and only talked about anonymously. Despite the lack of an identifying test, people who have healed themselves do themselves and their community a disservice when they withhold themselves from medical observation and as a community resource.

Serinus and friends further stub their toes when they proclaim that they are uncomfortable with "moral judgments" about gay male promiscuity only in the next breath to say, "Safe sex means safe sexual conduct. This involves modification of one's sexual appetite, and establishment of long or longer-lasting relationships." Ow! What is that but a moral judgment? It is just the kind of oppressive moralizing that the Holistic group claims leaves gay men vulnerable to the AIDS virus.

The Holistic group is almost uptight talking about S-E-X. Despite in-depth discussion of many other facets, sex is dismissed with "creative 'safe' mutual masturbation and erotic play." And while they claim that "AIDS calls for discretion and love in sexual relations — not for celibacy," they also claim "We believe that abstinence is beneficial for people with AIDS." Ouch!! Serinus and friends confuse sex and orgasm and desperately need to get their heads out of the technical journals and philosophical clouds and take a good, hard, musky view of sexual eroticism. These viewpoints are a major disappointment amidst such good work. Hopefully, this edition is just the first of many to come. ●

HARD AND JUICY



DIAL 976-415

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*2 PLUS TOLL IF ANY. ADULTS ONLY.

Men's Group

Informational meetings are now being held to fill one or two openings in an ongoing group for gay men.

The weekly group allows us to revise and update our self-image, as well as improve the quality of our relationships. The group becomes a laboratory where we can experiment with different ways of interacting. We get to hear how other men are dealing with similar concerns and we learn to take risks and set appropriate goals.

Group members are asked to make an initial commitment of six months to the group. For more information, call Adrian Bruce Tiller, M.S. at 861-2385. ●

Ms. Leather To Divvy Out Contest Proceeds

International Ms. Leather, Inc., is proud to announce there will be a distribution of proceeds from the 1st Annual International Ms. Leather contest on Wednesday, April 15, at the Club DV8, 55 Natoma Street, downstairs, from 8-10 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres will be served. The event is welcome to this free event.

Benefactors are the AIDS Emergency Fund, Coming Home Hospice, AWARE, Women's AIDS Network, and the AIDS Alternative Healing Project. ●

BOOKS

Pederasty's Mythic Dimension

Homosexuality in Greek Myth
by Bernard Sergent
Beacon Press, \$24.95

by Marv. Shaw

Long suppressed by Pauline Christianity and its Puritanical successors, the actual extent and value of homosexuality among the ancient Greeks has come farther into the light only in recent decades. Contemporary mythologists and historians such as K. J. Dover and Georges Dumézil, with their extensive researches and forthright rejection of homophobic inhibitions, have been busily correcting the distortions and omissions. Now, a brilliant young French historian joins the positive revisionists.

Bernard Sergent has demonstrated with most impressive scholarship that pederastic education among the ancient Hellenes was firmly rooted in the religion they practiced. Beginning far back in Indo-European proto-history, Sergent meticulously

traces the human origins of the education of male youth by loving men. Then, more importantly, he shows how this social institution was not only legitimized but glorified in the myths that were the foundations of their culture.

The mentor/lover was the erastes; the pupil/beloved, the eromenos. Among the myriad pairs we find Apollo and Hippolytus, Zeus and Ganymedes, Achilles and Patroclus, and Dionysus and Adonis. That utter quintessence of ancient masculinity, Heracles, stood as erastes to no less than 14 eromenoi! And the above are only the most familiar of the gods and heroes.

Sergent, after sketching in the earliest evidence in the Taifali, migrants from Central Asia, and some parallel Germanic tribes, concentrates on the Cretans.

There he explains the pederastic function, showing how the man chose and trained his pupil until the youth was ready to be tested and initiated into manhood. At this period, the choosing was done on the basis of the lad's physical and mental resources, not necessarily his beauty. Later, the criteria were reversed.

In both early and late periods, however, there was almost always love. And sex. The mode was either anal or inter-cranial. Naturally, the eromenos became an erastes himself.

This pederastic arrangement in no way interfered with the heterosexual necessities of the society. The eromenos later married and had a family. Sergent doesn't comment on what effect a husband's becoming an erastes had on his wife, but this custom seems to have been so legitimized that difficulties were probably minimal.

Sergent's research is formidable. The presentation of supporting detail is exhaustive. Unfortunately, for those who are not aficionados of Greek mythology, they are also exhausting. Many inclusions are obscure. But Sergent is intent on composing a

case so complete that it will be academically irrefutable. For the non-expert, selectivity is advised.

"Relevance," that favorite term from the social shifts of the early '70s, would not seem applicable here. But when one remembers that bisexuality, gay parenthood, and the like were considered bizarre and illegitimate only a generation ago and are now commonplace, Sergent's ancients seem like role models.

A prefatory note states that the preparation of this book was financed in part by a grant from the French Ministry of Culture. Imagine that in the administration of U.S. Secretary of Education William Bennett! Have a go at this one.

No Guarantee

Lifetime Guarantee
by Alice Bloch
Alyson Publications, \$6.95

by Paul Reed

Alice Bloch's moving chronicle of her sister's struggle with leukemia was originally published in 1981,

and has just been re-released. As a gay male simply overwhelmed by our community's health crisis, my first response when I received a copy of this book was to think, Oh, no, not another book on illness and death.

But then I read it, and I was very glad I made the decision to do so. Because, difficult as I thought it would be, reading about Alice Bloch's struggle with her sister's illness strengthened me in my daily grappling with the realities of the AIDS crisis.

Of course this was not Bloch's intention in writing the book. Bloch intended not only to honor her sister's memory and to celebrate that life — now, sadly, gone — but to offer insight into the interface between illness, death, medicine, family life, and lesbian strength.

The book's style is journalistic, something of a diary intermixed with snippets of wisdom, letters recovered from her sister's belongings, and poems. This form renders the book intensely personal; it is not a narrative from which the reader can be distant.

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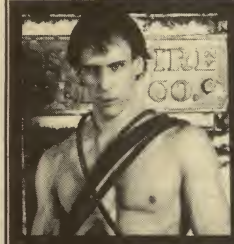
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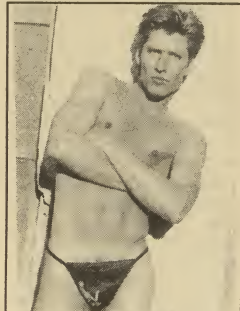
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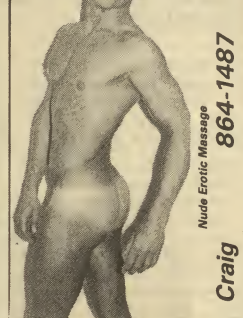
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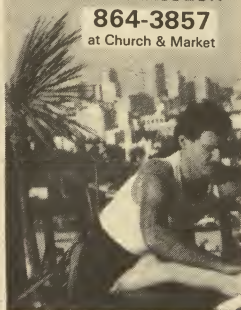
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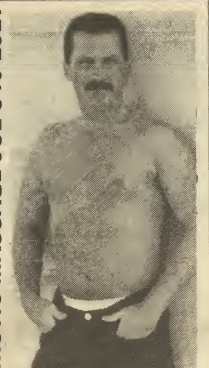


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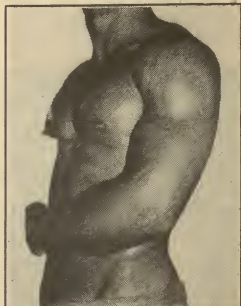
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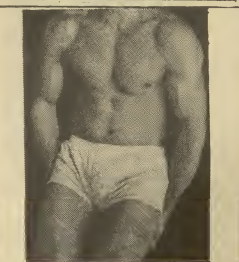
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BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

SOFTBALL

Spectacular Opening Day

by Tom Vindeed

Spirits soared and so did the temperature for the 10th opening day of the Gay Softball League.

Over 1,500 fans and friends turned out to witness this glorious day. Visits by Sen. Milton Marks and Congressional candidates Harry Britt and Kevin Wadsworth added to the festivities. Candidate Britt promised the G.S.L. the first flag he flies over the nation's capital will be presented to the league for use at the 1987 Gay Softball World Series.

It was one of those days! Committee chairs *really* did do their jobs. John Lavoni was his usual first class with the concessions. Tony Treviso and Deena Jones outdid themselves with the on-field spectacle. By the way, the band, 13 members, showed up and did a great job as did the Flag Twirlers and Baton Twirlers.

The host game party was chaired by Byron and his Pilsner Pals. And they, too, did an excellent job. Congratulations to all.

Oh yes, there were a couple of games played.

First up came Amelia's and

Super Star Video. Amelia's Aviators flew off with a quick 1-0 lead only to see the beaches, with more manpower down the Aviators, 6-2 in a very well played game. I have been told there is another women's team that is better than these two and I'll have to see it to believe it.

After the women's thriller, out came the "big boys." Defending champions Pendulum went up against the newly rejuvenated Endup. Surprise! The Endup shocked everyone by holding on for a 5-4 shocker. Terry Brooks and Ted Schertzinger paced the Endup to victory with timely pitching and hitting. It was a great way to start the season. Oh Joanne, I'll repeat the final score for you: Endup 5, Pendulum 4.

As usual, I predicted both games right on the nose!

The play of the day belonged to Rikki Striecher, owner of Amelia's who made an unbelievable catch on right field during the celebrity game. It got the crowd on its feet, and she received a tremendous ovation.

Yes, it was that kind of day.

Due to the length of this col-



Beaches and Amelia's start the game with hugs and handshakes

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)



Pete Rose would be proud of this slide!

(Photo: James Dusch)

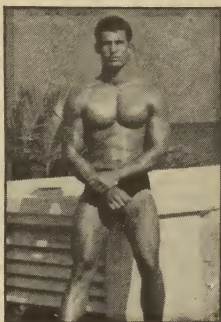
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umn, my 1987 predictions will be in next week's column along with the results of all the games played at Jackson Field. Please consult

your favorite team as to what time they play.

Finally, don't forget the Phone Booth's 13th Anniversary Party

tomorrow night at 25th and South Van Ness. Linda would be happy to see you.



Robert Nett, co-owner of El Rio, on his way to third base in the two-inning sponsors game.

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)



An Amelia Aviator slides into third base

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

BOWLING

PARK BOWL TAVERN GUILD BOWLING LEAGUES Team Standings and Personal Achievements

S.F. WOMEN'S BUSINESS LEAGUE (Week 23 of 26 - as of 3/22/87)		High Scratch Game	
1. Express Comp.	61 27	Mal Garcia (Park Bowl)	267
2. Park Bowl	58 30	Adrian Stenson (PWIL)	246
3. Awards By Chris	58 30	Hubert Smith (Inside Out)	245
4. Olive Oil's	56½ 31½	Bruce Gresham (Sta Go Aheads)	245
5. Mona Tong Realty	53 35	High Scratch Series	
6. Francois Coffee	52½ 35½	Michael Wheeler (Park Bowl)	636
7. Artemis Cafe	49 39	Roger Spencer (Wtrg Holes)	634
8. Amelia's	45 43	Bruce Gresham (Sta Go Aheads)	630
9. Jeffes & Associates	42½ 45½	Adrian Stenson (PWIL)	623
10. Mary's Futons	42 46	THURSDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE (Week 22 of 22 - as of 3/26/87)	
11. Maud's Squad	41 47	1. Park Bowl	63 25
12. Women's Training Ctr	40½ 47½	2. Play With It, Ltd.	60 28
13. Cassidy Cabinets	40 48	3. Wooden Horse	59 29
14. Spare Us	40 44	4. Belden 22	53 35
15. Sydney's Pinheads	39½ 48½	5. Paradise Lounge	52 36
16. S.F. Reporting	35½ 52½	6. Trax Trash	49½ 38½
17. About Paper +	32 56	7. Sticky Bun Bears	49 39
18. Better Natural	32 56	8. S.F. Eagle	48½ 39½
19. Code Blue	31 53	9. Trocadero	48½ 39½
20. Cafe Commons	29 59	10. Just Trax	48 40
TAVERN GUILD MONDAY LEAGUE (Week 21 of 21 - as of 3/23/87)		11. Cock-A-Doodle-Do	47 41
1. Park Bowl	54½ 29½	12. Dive Inn	46 42
2. Watering Holes	54½ 29½	13. Wild Balls	43 45
3. 757 Medical	50 34	14. The 69 Club	38½ 49½
4. Mr. Pilsner	49 35	15. Inside Out	38 50
5. Pilsner Powder Puffs	49 35	16. Station Studs	36 52
6. C.C. Riders	47 37	17. Capricorn Coffee	34 54
7. Inside Out	46½ 37½	18. Spare Us	34 54
8. Pendulum	46½ 37½	19. PB Wrong #'s	33 55
9. Pinbusters	46 38	20. Superstar Video	32½ 55½
10. Play With It, Ltd.	45 39	21. The Clean-up Artists	29 59
11. Pilsner Pantless Sisters	44½ 39½	22. Crescent City Cafe	26½ 61½
12. Capricorn Coffee	39 45	High Scratch Game	
13. Rainbow Bears	39 45	Bob Bates (PWIL)	267
14. Mus/Nic Construction	36 48	Doug Griggs (Trocadero)	263
15. The Club	35 49	Randy Peterson (PWIL)	257
16. Station Go Aheads	34 50	Jackie Weil (Inside Out)	200
17. Team #10	34 50	High Scratch Series	
18. Welcome Home	33 51	Richard McPherson (Wdn Hrse)	648
19. Pin Tweakies	32½ 51½	Michael Wheeler (SF Eagle)	640
20. The Hula Associates	24 60	Hugh Smith (SF Eagle)	636
		Jackie Weil (Inside Out)	524

(Editor's Note: Final standings for the Tavern Guild Wednesday League will be in next week's B.A.R.)

Compiled by Jerry R. De Young

POOL

Golden Opportunities

by Lauren Ward

There's no substitute for tournament competition for improving one's game and the opportunities abound in the second half of the San Francisco Pool Association's spring season.

Thanks to a generous donation from Golden Brands and the Miller Brewing Company our annual 8-Ball championship will offer larger cash prizes as well as commemorative T-shirts for all participants. Thanks also to E.Z. who negotiated the contribution and to Rick Mariani for his photographic mastery in producing the tournament posters.

Two finalists will advance from each of the eight upcoming preliminary tournaments to be held at SFFA sponsor bars, the first of which was scheduled at the Park Bowl March 31st.

Ron Barulich helped to organize the pool workshop last Saturday at the Inside Out. Sharing insights and techniques with the participants were E.Z., Ray Peterson, Colin Bradley, and Lauren Ward. It's likely that this will become a seasonal event for the League.

Cash prizes are offered in several weekly tournaments open to everyone. Check in by 7 p.m. Monday nights at the Bear on

Castro or by 7:30 p.m. at the Folsom New World. On Thursday nights the Special on Castro holds a contest. All these competitions employ league rules and entry fees range from two to three dollars.

AIDS has claimed another of our pool league family. Ken Robertson served as League Secretary for three years and briefly

as my co-chair for billiards in Gay Games II before his health problems began to restrict his activities. Besides being dedicated and responsible he'll be best remembered for his easy smile and the good humor he so delightfully projected.

Dial JOE-POOL for League updates and tournament information.

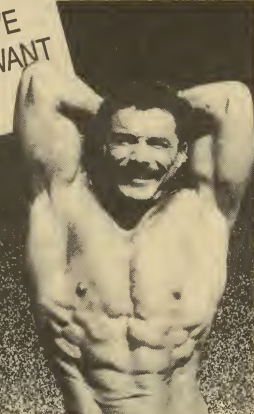
San Francisco Pool Association Standings

(Week 6 of 14 - as of 3/17/87)

DIVISION I			DIVISION III		
Travelers High Life	63-33	0.656	DeLuxe Ducks	77-19	0.802
Park Bowl Party Lines	59-37	0.615	Detour Destroyers	57-39	0.594
Bear Thugs	54-42	0.563	Park Bowl Pockets	51-45	0.531
Amelia's #1	46-50	0.479	Watering Hole Buffaloes	48-48	0.500
Pilsner Emperors	44-52	0.458	Badlands Ballbusters	46-50	0.479
Inside Out Of It	41-55	0.427	Castro Station Masters	41-55	0.427
Maud's	40-56	0.417	Folsom Falcons	34-62	0.354
A Special Brood	37-59	0.385	Pendulum Ph.D's	30-66	0.313
DIVISION II			DIVISION IV		
Badlands Badasses	67-29	0.698	Eagle Creek Chaos II	71-25	0.740
A Special Breed	54-42	0.563	White Swallow's Back!	61-35	0.635
Inside Out Rinos	52-44	0.542	Castro Sta. Commanders	52-44	0.542
Pilsner Pluggers	49-47	0.510	DeLuxe Accommodations	51-45	0.531
Bear Bottoms	48-48	0.500	Folsom Bushmen	20-28	0.417
Maud's Squad	42-54	0.438	Watering Hole Bisons	25-39	0.391
Amelia's Furies	39-57	0.406	Sofia's Seconds	33-63	0.344
Sofia's Choice	30-49	0.380	Detour 3D's	31-64	0.326

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Once Michael figures out how to "bottle" what he knows about body building, he'll be a millionaire... but until then he's sharing everything he knows with eager clients like me. In fact, he's helping to dramatically transform my body at the critical age of 32. The time had come for me to finally get it altogether and Michael Thurmond is in the process of making it happen for me *right now*. Thanks, Michael.

Frank X. Forker (March 87)

In 6 weeks Michael put density, size and shape into my muscles. Each workout he centered my mind on my muscles and the progress was incredible. I now have definition, muscles and the ability to work out on my own because of Michael.

Bebe Framery (March 87)

Michael Thurmond really cares about you as a person, how you look and how you feel. I really learned a lot about training from Michael.

John Malanga

I'd trained for 8 years and was dubious of what I could get from Michael. Well, in 12 weeks my knowledge of the body and how to train made a quantum leap. Michael really knows the fine points of training and passes this knowledge on to his students.

Bruce Ramsey

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Pee-Wee

(Continued from page 26)

powers or big tits.

But what about Pee-Wee himself? Part of Paul Reubens' characterization of his pre-adolescent mentality is to incorporate little boys' dislike for girls, and it's hilariously carried to some silly extremes that go just too far enough. As far as all-male institutions: In the HBO show, Pee-Wee gets a pen-pal letter saying, "Remember me, Lou from prison? I sure have enjoyed your letters, although some of the guys here think you're my girlfriend!" Mailman Mike, the hunky blond postal carrier, then appropriates the card, tucks it in his pocket, pats it lovingly and says he'll keep it for future reference.

One of the most hilarious sequences in *Pee-Wee's Big Adventure* is when the hitchhiking Pee-Wee is picked up by another convict, Mickey. To escape a road-block, Pee-Wee passes himself off as Mickey's wife and really gets off on the masquerade, flaunting his femininity and showing off his "cute little outfit," which he doesn't bother to doff once they're past the danger. "Why don't you take a picture, it'll last longer!" In fact, Mickey is shown eyeing Pee-Wee in a way that can only be described as lewd. "What's it like in the Big House, Mickey?" Pee-Wee asks.

"Oh, it's not so bad. You get to lift weights, watch TV, write appeals, take long showers, lift weights... you get used to it."

Of course, things aren't outrageously gay ("Aaarrggghh!") on *Pee-Wee's Playhouse*. That aspect of life is sanely mixed up with all of the other social weirdnesses reflected on that show. "You know, Pee-Wee," Captain

Carl says, "you've got a real twisted side to you."

"Why, thank you!" Pee-Wee responds. But things are gay ("Aaarrggghh!") enough when you look beyond the show's cartoonishness.

Perhaps the secret to Pee-Wee's charm is that he isn't afraid to exhibit a softer, creative side, like when he teaches his viewers how to make "action toys" out of vegetables or how to whip up a batch of "ice cream soup."

One of the most blatant examples of gay outlook is in the depiction of one of the Playhouse residents, Tito, the caricature of a lifeguard. Considering that we never see a swimming pool, it's unclear why exactly the show needs a lifeguard. But who cares when we're treated to loving closeups of Tito's tits?

And who cares that it's Miss Yvonne who goes after the beefcake? She's got good taste: In a commendable demonstration of liberated womanhood that belies Miss Yvonne's obsession with lipstick, hairspray, and prom dresses, she also goes after Cowboy Curtis, the long-haired black cowboy. The result is that the nervous Cowboy Curtis practices for his date by play-acting romance with Pee-Wee. Oddly enough, he isn't too nervous to try to kiss Paul Reubens!

Could it be that Curtis is Pee-Wee's type? The cowboy certainly gets some of the funniest, most risqué lines in the program. After trading a lesson in square dancing for one in pogo-ing, he tells Pee-Wee, "I showed you mine, now you show me yours!" Another time, needing new boots, he

gets the effeminate Jambito to conjure up a glittery pair. When Jambito hears that Curtis wears a size 12-triple-E, he minces, "Big feet!"

Curtis: "You know what they say about big feet, don't you?"

"No, what?" responds Jambito, flamboyantly red lips pursed.

"Big feet, big boots!"

The same episode also featured one of the more unusual classic cartoons which are edited down for the show: A nelly boy, "Little Percy," flits around, dancing for the class talent show. At the end of his performance, the entire class dangle their wrists and go, "Wooooo!"

Ultimately, one has to keep in mind that any gay ("Aaarrggghh!") undercurrents in Pee-Wee's work is only an undercurrent. Not only would it be professional suicide for an entertainer to slip in controversial material in what is perceived as a kids' show (Ask Soupy Sales. He knows all about it.), it would be as narrow a viewpoint as those who would ban such shows or burn books or inflict their morality onto us. Featuring off-the-wall characters is only one element in Pee-Wee's fresh and skewered presentation of reality, one that helps take viewers (both kids and grown-ups) away from the clichés of the television wasteland.

Pee-Wee Herman shows up on Saturday mornings and behaves just like his target audience: little children. He indulges his viewers in their naturally spontaneous behavior. He encourages them to be free people, to make noise and scream and do things with enthusiasm. His show, pop-

ping up as it does amidst the Rambos and Ronald McDonalds of Saturday morning, is an oasis of child (non-) reality, where the adult restrictions ("Don't make so much noise!" "Behave!" "Stay out of things!" etc.) are not the law. Maybe that's what threatens fundamentalists and conservative parents, the disrespect for unreasonable law and order. Maybe that's what causes them to fear and hate people as rela-

tively nonthreatening as people who are gay. "Aaarrggghh!"

And maybe that's why Pee-Wee has to deliver enigmatic lines like, "There are lots of things about me you wouldn't know anything about. Things you wouldn't understand. Things you couldn't understand. Things you shouldn't understand."

I know you are, but what about me I?

Why A Softball World Series? Well, Let Me Tell Ya'...

by Chuck Smith

"I can't be bothered with the World Series. I'm going to the River that week."

"Why should I be concerned about a softball tournament when people are dying?"

"Get away from me... unless you're going to buy me a drink!"

Yes, I've actually had people say those things to me over the years, and they illustrate the fact that sports and sporting events historically have not been among the highest priorities in the gay community. Let's face it, most gay people as children found either little reward in sports or few opportunities to participate. As adults, we perpetuated those early patterns and unknowingly cut ourselves off from a whole different arena of experience. Those of us who had natural athletic abilities and who continued to exercise them were labeled "jocks" and looked upon as something unusual, less than really "gay."

But over the past several years, especially here in San Francisco, those patterns have been changing. Enjoying a freedom rarely found anywhere else in the world, gay men and women have experimented with many pursuits not normally perceived as open to homosexuals. Sports is a good example of that.

With the onset of the AIDS crisis, the community has more than ever looked for healthy alternatives with which to be involved, and sports (especially team sports) have proved to be an excellent investment. More and more of us are discovering we can play sports and actually enjoy it. Whether it be bowling, tennis, cycling, golf, running, swimming, weightlifting or whatever, we have discovered that "Sports R Us!"

Which brings me back to softball and the upcoming Gay Softball World Series. The Gay Softball League of San Francisco decided to host this eleventh World Series competition not only as a celebration of the GSL's ten years of existence, but also to show the rest of the Bay Area and the world that the gay community is not simply giving up and dying off in the face of the AIDS crisis, that we are not a pariah to be quarantined and isolated, that we are not unhealthy and half dead. We are a surviving, competing, cooperating, caring community. And what better way to show that than by hosting a sports tournament.

Of course, we have done it before (1982) but at no time has it ever been more important than now. Many of those cities that will be represented at the Series are just beginning to seriously react to the AIDS crisis. They are experiencing what we went through two, three, four years ago, and they need to see what we have learned from our "day in, day out" exposure to the crisis.

And that lesson is: be healthy, be positive, be concerned, be active. We hope that this World Series will be more than just a tournament, more than just another social event; that it will showcase gay men and women in those positive, healthy, active pursuits. And not just to our own community, but to the rest of the world as well.

We in the GSL also hope that all of you will become a part of this most positive and rewarding sports event.

In Memory of Friends

In the largest presentation of gay and lesbian talent since the Jon R. Sims memorial concert at Grace Cathedral in 1984, In Memory of Friends on Thursday, April 9, at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre is the lesbian/gay community's musical gift of remembrance, love, and support to those who have suffered and are suffering with AIDS.

Weslia Whitfield, Pamela Brooks, John Lusk, Tom Anderson, Gail Wilson, Tom Vetrano, Greg Lynch, Wayne Fleisher, and Joe Poltrone, along with actor/author Bill Barksdale, will be joined by nearly 150 lesbians, gay men, and their friends from the Lesbian and Gay Chorus of San Francisco, Men About Town, The Vocal Minority, The San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Band, and The San Francisco Tap Troupe in this production in memory of our friends and in support of those living with AIDS.

The brainchild of producer Gary Menger, In Memory of Friends is a benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund, an organiza-

tion whose energetic board and volunteers return 90 cents of every dollar they raise directly into the hands of people with AIDS to help them with their rent, food, medicine, and transportation.

The community has responded overwhelmingly with support for this project. To date, more than \$10,000 in cash contributions and \$7,000 in services have been donated to make In Memory of Friends a reality. All tickets sold will produce what we hope to be more than a \$25,000 profit, which will be disbursed by the AIDS Emergency Fund where it is most needed.

Tickets for the 8 p.m. performance are on sale now at all BASS outlets including all Headlines stores, STBS in Union Square, and the Gramophone on Polk Street. Tickets can be charged by phone at 762-BASS. Seats are \$10 and \$20, and there is a special dinner/show package available for \$60 per couple by calling 552-8798.

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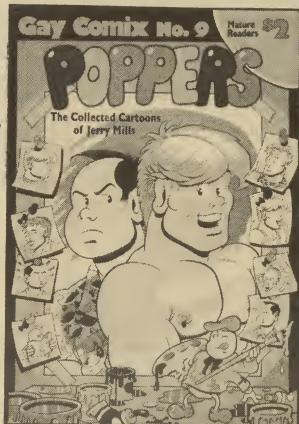
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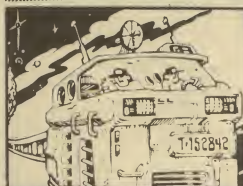
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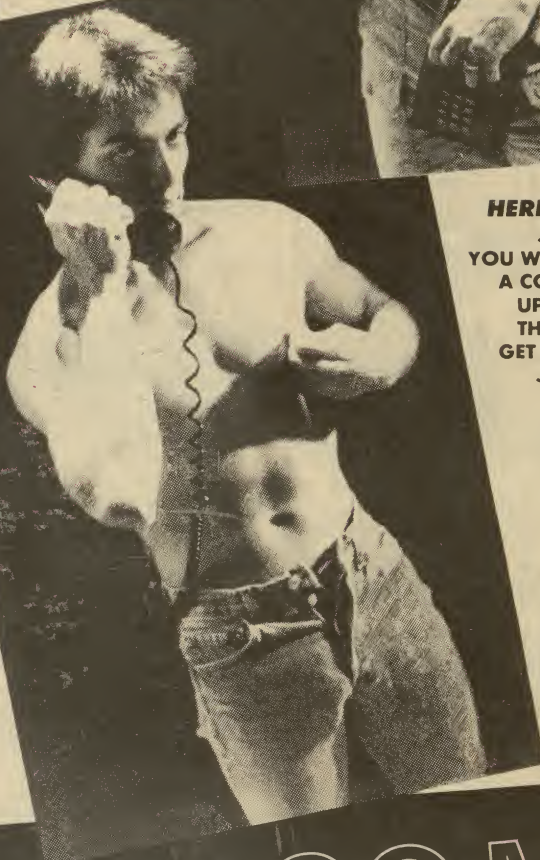
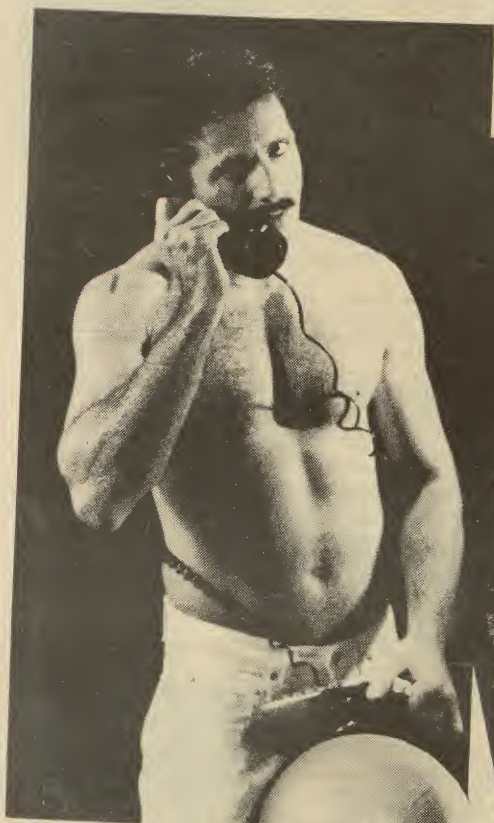
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